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Great Britain.

LONDON, NOV. 30—DEC. 1, 1882.

SEDITIONOUS SPEECHES IN IRELAND.

There is to be a new prosecution in Ireland, and the spirit in which Mr. Trevelyan made the announcement in the House of Commons on Thursday night amounted to a confession of the failure of the Irish policy of the Government. It is little more than a year ago that Mr. Parnell was arrested. Even then the tactics of coercion and concession had alternately been resorted to in vain. They have been repeated during the interval which has subsequently elapsed with the same abortive result. The sequel of the Arrears Act and of the Crimes Act is the same as that of the Land Act and the Protection Act. Now, as then, the Executive is compelled to supplement remedial or corrective legislation with the punishment or the suppression of the agitators who defy and violate the law. Sir William Hart Dyke interrogated the Chief Secretary for Ireland on Thursday on the subject of Mr. Davitt's speech delivered at Navan on Sunday last. Two days previously Mr. Tocqueville had pursued the same course with reference to Mr. William Redmond's address at Cork on the 21st of November, and Mr. Trevelyan had replied that the matter was under the consideration of the Government. The Ministerial decision is now known, and Mr. Redmond is to be prosecuted. Mr. Davitt and Mr. Healy are not to be prosecuted, but they are to be cautioned; they are to be "brought to good behaviour, or they are to be committed to prison in default." That the language employed in each of these instances was seditious and inflammatory there can be no doubt. It is simply a question of degree, though Mr. Redmond indisputably went further than either Mr. Healy or Mr. Davitt. Boycotting, though it was once euphemistically described by Mr. Gladstone as an ingenious mode of exclusive dealing, is now illegal. Mr. Redmond insisted that the teaching of the Land League should be followed, and the teaching, he said, "was that if any man was untrue to the cause he should be boycotted." He "advised those present and those whom his words might reach to use moderately and wisely the expedient weapon of Boycotting towards every man who betrayed the national cause." These words are mild in comparison with what followed. "As a Nationalist," said Mr. Redmond, "he yearned to see Ireland a free nation. But the League could accomplish that. It could be accomplished only by the swords and united arms of the Irish people. It was the duty of every man, not only in rebel Cork, but in Ireland, to prepare for that Revolution." There is but one construction to be placed upon expressions of this kind; they are, so far as language can be, an encouragement to civil war. This, too, was the drift of the incendiary counsels of Mr. Davitt. "Landlordism," he said, "must provide for the starving people during the coming winter, and if there were not done, 'they must be told to march down on the plains, and seize the land upon which to live as civilised beings in a Christian country.' If, he added, the surplus of the Arrears Estimate was not applied to save the people, 'no rent should be paid from this November until next May.' To the same effect, but in somewhat more vehement terms, spoke Mr. Healy. His advice to the Irish tenants "would be to get what they could out of the judicial rents, and if it gave them a great deal of trouble to pay them, let them give themselves less trouble." In the same vein Mr. Healy declared that "the British Government in Ireland was simply a system of land piracy upheld by organisation." It was the 'Government League' against the Land League; and the former, being an association of "so many pirates and so many brigands, was entitled to the same moral respect as would be the wishes of a cutpurse who held a revolver at your head, and said 'Your money or your life.'" If the Government really display the energy of which there is a hope held out in the statement of the Chief Secretary on Thursday night, the public will rightly appreciate their efforts. But they must understand, and consequently bear in mind, that so far as Ireland is concerned, they are still upon their trial. They have as yet won no laurels upon which they can honourably repose. If they vigorously carry out the policy which they are pledged to execute they may depend upon the cordial co-operation, not only of the Conservative Party but of the country at large. But the terms are as final as they are distinct. The English people are not disposed to tolerate trifling, however amiable the motives which may be assigned. Ministers have indicated a line of action, and they are bound by every consideration—including even that of self-interest—to adhere to it.—*Standard*.

M. DE BRAZZA.

While acknowledging M. de Brazza's services to the cause of geography, Englishmen cannot help being a little amused at the extraordinary attention of which this one of many African explorers has been the object in the French capital.

That the President of the Chambre des Députés and several of the Ministers, with all the Municipal Council of Paris should entertain M. de Brazza at the Tuileries with the ceremonies of a royal reception must be attributed less, we fear, to the importance of M. de Brazza's geographical exploits than to the hot fit of annexation which is just now upon the French Republic. To term M. de Brazza "the pioneer of civilisation on the Congo," and to compare him with Norder Skjern, is, to say the least of it, a little ridiculous. If he really entitled to be called a pioneer of civilisation on the Congo it is surely Mr. Stanley. What cannot induce Englishmen in these eccentric and even delirious proceedings is the notion—which has given zest to this patriotic demonstration, and perhaps added several tons to the weight of M. de Brazza's gold medal—that England is in some way hurt by M. de Brazza's politico-geographical enterprise. But England has no motive for grudging Congo to the French; and in any case Mr. Stanley, as an American and the agent of a Belgian company, can be taken as a representative of England or a champion of English claims.—*St. James's Gazette*.

THE TRIAL OF ARABI.

BAKER PACHA.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphed on Thursday night:—

Frequent conferences between Lord Dufferin and the Counsel for the Defence have taken place during the last few days, with the result of securing, through his Excellency's good offices with the Egyptian Government, an arrangement, the details of which are still secret, but which will do away with the necessity for the wearisome and dangerous delays of a State Trial.

It is also calculated to secure lenient treatment of the political prisoners, and will reflect credit on the generosity of the Khedive and the Egyptian Ministers. Baker Pacha has been officially informed that the English Government declines to recognize or sanction his appointment as Commander in Chief of the Egyptian Army, but is of opinion that his services may be utilised for organising and taking command of an armament and police force. It is very generally felt and said here that Baker Pacha has been rather hardly treated. Before resigning his high military appointment in Turkey, he was distinctly given to understand that the English Government would not in any way oppose the wish of the Khedive to confer upon him the command of the new Egyptian Army. Since arriving at Cairo he has worked energetically, and has completed the arduous task of drawing up a detailed scheme for the re-organisation of the army. This scheme his successor, whoever he may be, will find ready made to hand. The work which Baker Pacha has now desired to undertake is doubtless important, but it is not that for which he was induced to quit the service of the Porte. According to the present proposal, the gendarmerie and police will form two brigades under Baker Pacha's command. The Commission on Coast Salut's Police proposal continues its sittings with the view of gradually eliminating the mongrel elements introduced by the originator of the scheme.

MURDER OF AN AMERICAN IN MADAGASCAR.

The Central News has received the following from Tananarivo, the capital of Madagascar, dated October 21.—Two Americans—

—have been attacked by the Sakalava tribes on the west coast of Madagascar. The former was killed and the latter severely wounded. Their interpreter, Theodore Parent, and one of their attendants, a Mozambique African, were also killed. An expedition was ordered some time ago to chastise these unruly tribes, but was prevented sailing by the French Consul here, M. Baudouin. Had it gone these murders would in all probability never have taken place. The American Consular Agent at Nosyvarava states that Messrs. Emerson and Hullett had been in Madagascar since May last, and had travelled a good deal in Sakalava. He is quite a loss to account for the attack upon them. Although he had warned them against that part of the country he had at the same time no reason to believe that they were in any personal danger.

SUICIDE OF A MISSIONARY.—News has been received from East London, South Africa, of the suicide of the Rev. Albert Maggs, head of the English Church Mission. Mr. Maggs had suffered greatly from depression recently, consequent on the death of his wife.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE'S CRUISE.—The *Pandora* has put into Dartmouth, and will remain there till the weather moderates. On the voyage down Channel the yacht encountered very heavy weather, and with the exception of Miss Smith, the whole party suffered severely from sea-sickness.

HEAVY SNOWFALL IN SCOTLAND.—Nearly six inches of snow fell at Wednesbury in the Cheadle district of Birmingham, and on Deeside the depth was fully two inches. In the upper ranges of the Grampians the fall was heavier, and flock-masters were put to much trouble with their stocks. The fall has also been heavy in the counties of Sutherland and Caithness.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The Speaker took the chair at four o'clock. The questions addressed to the Government were close upon 80 in number, of which were on the paper, covering more than 10 pages of the Votes, and though the majority of them were of merely local interest, "question time" it lasted until 6 o'clock.

In answer to Mr. Gladstone's

concerned, they contemplated dealing in this way with the Criminal Code Bill, the Bankruptcy Bill, and the Patents Bill.

The procedure of the Committees was next considered, and ultimately it was agreed, on the motion of Mr. Gladstone, that the procedure, as a rule, shall be the same as in the Select Committees, and that strangers shall be admitted, except when the Committee shall order them to withdraw.

After some further discussion, the first of the Standing Committee Resolutions was agreed to, and the debate was adjourned.

The House adjourned at 10 minutes past 1 o'clock.

THE DUBLIN OUTRAGES.

The Dublin Correspondent of the *Standard* writes on Thursday night says:—The difficulties and bustle engendered in pursuing inquiries with regard to both the Abbey-street murderer and the attack on Mr. Field, the wounded assassin, remain in Jervis Street Hospital, and continue to increase. Fourteen constables, armed with swords and revolvers, are in charge of him, lest there should be any further attempt at rescue. The authorities have received written statements from several persons who witnessed the attack on Mr. Field, and pursued the car. The condition of the wounded gentleman is satisfactory, and the doctors have every reason to hope that he will recover. The utmost sympathy is felt for him, and his establishment in Westmoreland-street has been so besieged by persons making inquiries as to his progress, that it has been necessary to keep bulletins as to his condition posted on the shop window. Great satisfaction is felt at the gracious solicitude shown by the Queen concerning him, and the public are able to see any other friends owing to his increasing weakness. The latest report was that he was in no suffering and slept much, his mental powers when he was awake being full vigour. On Wednesday evening his Grace expressed a wish to see the steward, Mr. Whalley, and instructed him to say "Good-bye" to all the servants in the house.

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2, Redcliffe-square, from Ellingham Hall, his seat in Northumberland, where he has been staying for a few weeks' shooting.

Lady Haro Clarges has left Brown's Hotel for Brighton.

While shooting in Lord Penrhyn's preserves, near Carnarvon, on Thursday, with Lord Seymour, Mr. Bromley Davenport, M.P., and other gentlemen, the Hon. R. C. Vivian missed a hare, and the shots lodged in the leg and thigh of the Hon. Douglas Pennant, Lord Penrhyn's eldest son. The injuries are reported to be slight.

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THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

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POLITICAL ITEMS.

(FROM THE "DAILY NEWS.")

Mr. Parnell will on Monday repeat his motion for adjournment, in order to raise the question of the administration of the Irish Land Act. Irish members absent from town have been urgently recalled, and steps will be taken to ensure the presence of forty members to support the application.

Lord Randolph Churchill had promised the support of himself and his friends to the Irish members in their effort made on Thursday night to secure the adjournment. The noble lord excused himself for the non-fulfilment of his pledge on the ground of the feelings created in the public mind by the speeches of Mr. Davitt and Mr. Healy. Had the Fourth Party risen en masse they would have just made the necessary forty.

Mr. Healy announces his intention of suffering imprisonment rather than enter into recognitions to be of good behaviour. It is understood that Mr. Davitt will also select this alternative.

Mr. Bourke does not intend further to press his demand for a day on which to discuss the circumstances of the trial of Arabi Pacha. He is told that peaceful and law-abiding citizens will be present to witness the trial, and that the criminal classes shall feel it a great triumph for them to be present.

Information received in London points to the early conclusion of the trial of Arabi Pacha.

It is, we believe, the intention of the Government to call a General of the British Army to Egypt to take the command of the forces which Baker Pacha has levied.

Baker Pacha, not holding a commission in the British army, would not be competent to assume command over British officers.

On Thursday afternoon the two Malagasy Envoys, accompanied by one of their native secretaries and the Consul for Madagascar in London, visited the House of Commons, and occupied seats in the special gallery during question time. Subsequently Dr. Cameron gave them an opportunity of seeing the library and the other principal apartments of the House. Before returning to the Alexandra Hotel they entered into conversation with many members. The Second Ambassador speaks English fluently.

(FROM THE "STANDARD.")

Mr. W. Redmond, the brother of the member for New Ross, against whom the Government have intimated that they intend to institute proceedings, is now on the Continent. He left Ireland shortly after the delivery of the speech on which the proposed prosecution is based. If Mr. Davitt and Mr. Healy, M.P., are brought before the magistrates and required to give evidence for good behaviour, it is believed that they will refuse to do so. In that event, they may be sent to prison for a period not exceeding six months.

THE MADAGASCAR QUESTION.

The Press Association learns upon undoubted authority that the alarmist statements which have caused some excitement as to the intended call of the English gunboat *Seagull* to reinforce the *Phoenix*, are entirely erroneous. No question of the protection of British subjects in that island can be raised. The *Seagull* has no mission of the kind. The fact is that she was sent to the south-west as Lieutenant Hill estimated. Lieutenant Price, first Lieutenant of the ship, who was in bed at the time the ship went ashore, detailed the circumstances attending the wreck. Mr. Harvey, the carpenter, who said the water first appeared in the fore compartment, and Mr. Blackburn, the engineer, having given evidence, the President announced that the case for the prosecution had closed. Commander Grenfell, on behalf of himself and Lieutenant Hill and Mr. Merrett, gunner, requested an adjournment until Friday, in order to prepare the defence. The Court, in

ILNESS OF MR. FAWCETT.—The Postmaster-General has been confined to his rooms since Wednesday, suffering, it is stated, from a severe cold and sore throat. In reply to inquiries at his residence at late hour on Thursday night, it was stated that the right hon. gentleman was much better.

COLONIAL GOVERNORS.—The Queen has approved the following appointments:—Sir G. F. Bowen, G.C.M.G., Governor of Mauritius, to be Governor of Hong Kong. Sir J. Pope Hennessy, K.C.M.G., Governor of Hong Kong, to be Governor of Mauritius.

THE WAR OFFICE.—There is no truth in the statement that Mr. Chidlers has gone to Malta. He has never left England, though he purposed doing so when Parliament breaks up. He is somewhat better in health, from the entire rest he has enjoyed in Devonshire. Meanwhile, his parliamentary and official duties are performed by Sir Arthur Hayter, M.P., and Sir Ralph Thompson. Mr. Chidlers will probably be absent during the month of December, but Sir Arthur Hayter will remain and attend at the War Office.

Lord Morley has gone on leave.

THE ARMY REVENGE.—A General Order has been issued by the War Office, stating that her Majesty has been pleased to command that the services of those men of the 1st Class Army Reserve, who were called out on permanent service on the 23rd July 1882, who joined the Reserve between the 1st July and 31st December, 1881, and who are now serving, or will hereafter serve, in the United Kingdom, are no longer required.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S ILLNESS.—The Duke of Edinburgh is recovering from his indisposition. The Duke has been suffering from a pulmonary and nephritis congestion, due to exposure on board the *Lively*. All serious symptoms have now passed away, but Dr. Wilks of Ashford is still in attendance on his Royal Highness. Though there need be no anxiety about a permanent recovery, it is obvious from the peculiar nature of his malady that many months must elapse before his Royal Highness will be able to undergo the fatigue and exposure incident to his professional vocation.

CARD PLAYING IN RAILWAY CARRIAGES.

Sensible people will sympathise with the amazement and grief of the gentleman who complains of the decision that playing cards for three-pence points in a railway carriage is an offence against the law, and that every person so playing is liable to three months' hard labour. Many of us have had to share some such experience as that of the writer. "I travel," he says, "by rail every evening, my journey lasting from forty minutes to a couple of hours, according as the train is more or less impunctual. The light in the carriage enables a person to see a card, but he is not to read a book or newspaper. Consequently, quiet rubber is often indulged in when any other amusement is out of the question." Why not? It is not that sharpers often catch the rustic flat by means of a pastime harmless in itself, and the flat will be caught as before, whether a railway carriage be legally a public place or not. The decision will certainly be evaded, and quiet travellers will insist on having their cards and ale in spite of the virtuousness of the carriage.

(*Pall Mall Gazette*.)

A NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM FOR MANCHESTER.—The Mayor of Manchester presided over a meeting held on Wednesday to raise a fund for the erection of buildings for a Natural History Museum and Schools in connection with the Owens College. There was a large and influential attendance, including the Bishop of Manchester and the leading members of all the learned societies in the city. It was stated that a fund of £50,000 was needed to carry out the plans prepared by the architect of the college, and to provide the necessary museum, rooms, etc. Towards the

end of the meeting, the architect of the college, Mr. G. H. T.

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COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

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Mr. Bourke does not intend further to press his demand for a day on which to discuss the circumstances of the trial of Arabi Pacha. He feels that even if the rules of the House permitted him to raise a debate on the adjournment, no satisfactory result could be reached by way of division.

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The three English members who on Thursday supported Mr. Parnell in his demand to move the Adjournment of the House were Mr. Cowen, Mr. Labouchere, and Mr. Thorold Rogers. Mr. Arnold and Mr. Collings, Liberals, and Mr. Macleavy, a Conservative, voted with Mr. Parnell and his supporters in the minority of twenty-two in favour of Mr. O'Donnell's proposal for a Standing Committee of Irish Members.

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LONDON, DECEMBER 2-3, 1882.

FRANCE AND ENGLAND IN MADAGASCAR.

The *Economist*, while admitting that there is much reason for annoyance at French action in Madagascar, contends that such a feeling, just as it may be, is not a sufficient reason for protesting in any official way against French policy in Madagascar. It may be brutal policy, but the ceremonial brutality of one country towards another Power is no reason for a third country's official interference. It may be policy of conquest, but Great Britain is not bound to prevent conquests, unless they injure either her own interests or the general welfare of mankind. The French, from their own point of view, are only doing what the English, the Spaniards, and the Russians have repeatedly done. It is impossible to show that the world is injured by their action, while specially British interests remain totally unaffected. We have no settlements in Madagascar, and no treaty rights other than we have with every Power, and the French in possession of Madagascar will not have any power of interrupting our route to India which they do not possess now. They can sail out into the Channel from Cherbourg and seize ships bound for India much more easily than they can from any port in Madagascar. There is, in fact, no reason for interference, while there are two most solid reasons against it. One is that it is essential to interests much greater than those of Madagascar that the fissure which is spreading between England and France, a fissure which is the one weak place in the policy of Mr. Gladstone's Government, should not be widened until the two peoples, after thirty years of anarchy, once more grow suspicious of each other; and the other is that the Malagasy can take care of themselves without any help from us. Plainly, though Englishmen may regret, and regret keenly, the conquest of Madagascar by France, it is not their duty or their business to prevent it in the only feasible way, namely, by insisting at any risk that the conquest shall not be attempted. Let the French get a bit of the tropical world if they can. They are only giving new hostages to Great Britain.

The *Spectator* points out that no troops have been sent to Madagascar, and the Government is evidently either pandering to a momentary cry, or is under the impression that, on the first demonstration of force, the Hovas will give way. That is a mistake. The Hovas are Malays by descent, and retain the fighting qualities of their ancestors. In 1815 they beat off England and France united, and they will defend to the last the line of swampy forests which separates the healthy uplands from the coast. The French will either be defeated, or forced to employ a much larger expedition.

The *Tablet* says:—French politicians have been pressing a policy of active aggression in Tunis, in the Corée, in Madagascar, in Annam, in Tahiti, in Rarotonga, in Mataba, in Guayaquil, on the Red Sea, and on the Congo. Of these the case of Madagascar most nearly touches at once the sympathies and the interests of Englishmen. Nothing but their own moderation of English interference can now stand between the French and the conquest of Madagascar. Neither obstacle need be seriously considered and the Government of Queen Ranavalona must choose between speedy concession and ultimate destruction. Apart from the high-handed injustice of the French Government, we shall regret the subjection and possible disappearance from among the nations of the one branch of the Polynesian Malays who have shown a capacity for self-government and who have developed a peculiar but still progressive civilisation. But, however that may be, England has too much on her hands to allow her to play the knight errant redressing the wrongs of the world, and there must have been a sad waste of experience somewhere, if the French Ministry believes that, in threatening the freedom of the Hovas, they are laying the foundations of a colonial empire.

THE OUTRAGES IN DUBLIN.

The *Saturday Review* has no fault to find with the immediate measures which the Irish Executive has taken to meet the new situation. They have offered a very large reward for the discovery of the would-be assassins of Mr. Field; they have put in force the "curfew clause" of the Crimes Prevention Act; and they appear to be making arrests, where possible, with vigour and promptitude. It is to the Irish police is being recruited from the marines; and there is said that a very valuable addition treatment of inflammatory speeches, though tardy and somewhat lenient, is of the right kind. All this is a piece with the general conduct of Lord Spencer, and it deserves all praise. But it cannot be too often repeated that the best efforts of the Irish Executive, from Lord Spencer himself to the constables who risk their lives in the slums of Dublin, are, and must be, useless so long as the italid misconception of Irish crime which prevails at headquarters in London continues. While the Irish Secretary is manipulating figures to show that this and that crime ought not to count in his total; while he is giving English partisans the cue to distinguish between Fenianism and Land League; while he is truckling to agrarian greed by withdrawing court values, judges and jurors, soldiers and constables put their lives in jeopardy to no purpose. No man who has studied the history of Ireland and Irish crime free from the predestination to see all things as Mr. Gladstone sees them can doubt the entire solidarity of the two classes of crime which Mr. Trevelyan seeks to distinguish. And it is to this fatal distinction, and the carrying out of it in legislation and policy, that the present anarchy of Ireland is due.

The *Spectator* counsels Englishmen not to be too much disheartened either by the fresh outrages in Ireland, or by Michael Davitt's appeal for a new agitation against rent. So far from proving that remedial legislation has failed, they show that it has, in great measure, succeeded. The agrarian agitation, which was always the most formidable of the difficulties, both because it was partly just and because it arose from the true economic difficulty of Ireland—the incompatibility of the English tenure with the circumstances of a poor and agricultural country—has within the last

PARIS, MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1882.

PARIS: PRICE 40 CENTIMES
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PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

Parliament was prorogued on Saturday by Royal Commission. The House of Lords met at four o'clock, and soon afterwards the members of the House of Commons, who met a few minutes earlier, were summoned to hear the Queen's Speech read. The Speech was as follows:—

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

After a session of remarkable duration, I am at length enabled to bring your labours to a close. I continue to hold relations of cordial amity with all Foreign Powers. The commercial negotiations with France, which were proceeded in February, did not result in the conclusion of a treaty. But the Government and Legislature, in their joint sittings, have pursued an enlightened policy; and there has, in consequence, been any general falling-off in the despatches between the two countries, which at once promote their material well-being and strengthen the bonds of friendship now happily uniting them. The operations in Egypt, both naval and military, which a wise liberality enabled me to conduct upon an adequate scale, and which were prosecuted with such energy and fidelity in all the departments, were brought to an early and successful issue. I take this opportunity of placing upon record my gratitude to the able officers who commanded by sea and land, and to the victorious forces, of which my Indian army supplied a distinguished part. The recent events in Egypt have enhanced my obligations in regard to its affairs, of which I spoke to you at the beginning of your protracted session. I shall study to discharge my duties in such a manner as to maintain international engagements, to uphold and consolidate the privileges which have been successfully acquired, to promote the happiness of the people and the "prudent development of their institutions," and to avoid any measure which might tend towards disturbing the tranquillity of the East. And I feel confident that my aims, and the result of my counsels, will commend themselves to the approval of the Powers, my allies, in the several relations to that interesting region.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

I thank you for the supplies which you have granted to me to meet the various and extended wants of the public service.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

After a succession of unfavourable seasons in the greater portion of the United Kingdom, the produce of the land has, during the present year, been for the most part abundant, and trade is moderately active. The growth of the revenue, however, is sensibly retarded by a cause which must in itself be contemplated with satisfaction; I refer to the diminution in the receipts of the Exchequer from the duties on intoxicating liquors. In some parts of Ireland I am compelled to anticipate distress during the approaching winter. I have also to record with deep pain that the horrible crime of assassination has been rife in the Metropolitan City of Dublin; and there is a special call of duty upon the Executive authority to exercise with fidelity and firmness the powers with which it has been entrusted. In the social condition of the country at large, however, I have the satisfaction of noting that there has been a marked improvement; and the law has acted with renewed vigour under the provisions you have devised. I have no knowledge of its effect. When shown a letter from Yacoub Sami, commanding to the effect that Arabi is to have this murderer imprisoned as a personal favour, he says he never received the letter. And when his secretary proves that he must have received it, he says he omitted to read it. He was shown a copy of the question submitted to the Ulema, as to the deposition of the Khedive. He denied that he had seen it. He was told that it was found in his house; he denied it. He was then told that the English authorities had found it there upon which he replied that it must have been put there without his knowledge. As regards Nedim, Arabi repudiates him altogether, and says that he never even read his newspaper, although it is admitted to be printed and published by the Government. Indeed, his own unassisted defence may be summarised as consisting of an absolute denial of all facts until confronted with the proof of them; the allegation of pressure from the nation for all acts proved, and through it all no trace of independence, public spirit, patriotism, or the courage of his opinions. From one end to the other of many pages of platitudes, there is no single appeal in favour of the people of whom he claims to be the champion. We have only the spectacle of one man fencing shrewdly for his own life, the saving of which he openly avows was the sole motive of his first act of revolt.

On Thursday, St. Andrew's day, the Scotch Corporation met, and as usual dined. They showed the liberality of educated Scotchmen by inviting Sir William Vernon Harcourt to preside over cocky-leeky and other delicacies. Sir William Harcourt is an after-dinner speaker, golden boy; and though he is not unsophisticated, his bias is, he said, two hopelessly southern to allow of his making the claim—his eloquence was sure to give his friends due credit for their hospitality. The only danger is lost his presidency on a festive occasion should make angry passions rise in some Edinburgh bosoms. The patriotism of certain Scotchmen who cannot get away from Scotland is apt to be a little acrimonious. Edinburgh has of late been supplied with a good deal of restorative for removing impediments to the wide and progressively enlarged action of the Land Act of 1881. You have also passed a variety of measures from which, in their several spheres of operation, I anticipate much advantage to my people. I could, indeed, have desired to congratulate you at the present time on your having been able to meet the wants of the country for practical and effective legislation on many well-known and weighty subjects, of high interest to large portions of the community, some of which I commend to your notice at the opening of the session. After the recess you will resume your labours under circumstances which, I trust, may prove more favourable to their accomplishment than those of the current year; and I rely with confidence on your energy and wisdom for the discharge, under the Divine blessing, of the arduous responsibilities which must ever attach to the Parliament of my Empire.

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NICE 1-15, QUAI MASSENA.

Great-Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 3-4, 1882.

THE SENTENCE ON ARABI.

At nine o'clock on Sunday morning Arabi was brought before a Court-martial, mainly composed of men who a few weeks since were his very obedient servants. Being charged, under Ottoman law, with having led more than eight persons to revolt, and with refusal to disband his forces when commanded to do so, he pleaded guilty, and the Court at once adjourned to eat its luncheon and discuss its sentence. After an interval sufficiently long to suggest deliberation, it reassembled, and pronounced with one voice that Arabi must be condemned to death; but, before the doom could have time to shock any of his audience, the President read, from the same document as that which contained the sentence, a decree of the Khedive declaring that, "for personal reasons," he should exercise his right of clemency, and that Ahmed Arabi must be banished. We have thus adroitly, and with as much conservation of dignity as was possible under the circumstances, been extricated from a position of some difficulty to which hasty and ill-advised action had committed us.

The discredit of the situation was brought upon us by the Government; the crux of having found a way out of it, and of having contrived that there should be no unpleasantness, must rest with Lord Dufferin. Of all those whose good-tempered acquiescence in the arrangement was desired, only one proved recalcitrant. Borelli Bey, who was conducting the prosecution, indignantly withdrew from it, declaring the proceedings to be a complete farce. Farce or farce, the performance passed off without a hitch and without laughter, though our correspondent tells us that pleasant smiles lighted up the usually stern countenance of the culprit. Our own Government, as well as that of the Khedive, have every reason to be thankful at the turn things have taken. Nor can the country feel anything but satisfaction at the event. The trial might as easily have lasted five weeks as five minutes, but the only difference in the result would have been the blackening of a few reputations already sufficiently shady, and the public disclosure of transactions which are even now no secret, but of which it is not convenient to take notice.—Standard.

The Daily News says:—The problem of "Ahmed Arabi, the Egyptian, and what to do with him," has been solved in the manner which our recent telegrams from Egypt have foreshadowed, and in accordance with the suggestions which we have consistently made. He is to be exiled from Egypt as a person politically dangerous. If this step had been taken immediately on his surrender much time and trouble, and some future complications, would have been spared. There has been the form of an arraignment; Arabi has gone through the form of pleading guilty to the charge of rebellion; and the Court has gone through the form of sentencing him to death. The only real thing in the business is the Khedive's commutation of the sentence into banishment for life. This sensible conclusion of the matter is probably due to the presence of Lord Dufferin, and his faculty of penetrating into and acting upon the real facts and necessities of a situation to which routine diplomacy and officialism are blind.

THE CUBAN REFUGEES.

The report of the Committee charged with the investigation of the circumstances under which the Cuban refugees were surrendered to the Spanish authorities has reached the Colonial Office, and Lord Kimberley has lost no time in telegraphing the decision of the Government. From the first it was plain that some of the Gibraltar officials had exceeded their authority, and the chief task of the Committee of Inquiry resolved itself into discovering who those officials were, and what amount of responsibility attached to each. The conclusions of the Committee may be inferred from the terms of Lord Kimberley's telegram. The Colonial Secretary and the Chief Inspector of Police are informed as courteously as circumstances permit that they are dismissed from their offices. The Acting Police Magistrate, another official involved in this unfortunate affair, escapes with a severe censure, the ground for this leniency being that at the time he was not discharging his regular duties—those of Captain of the Port. General Baynes and Chief Inspector Blair, who are thus removed from their posts, are, perhaps, not so much culpable as unfortunate. Any one out of many contingencies would have saved them from the possibility of a mistake. But when all is said in extenuation of their conduct, the fact remains that they exceeded their duty; and, seeing that no slight mortification has flowed from their transgression, it was inevitable that they should be made to suffer. Unfortunately, the cashiering of an official or two leaves England as regards Spain in no better position than before. Only two facts have come to light which could by any possibility be construed to give us the right of demanding the re-surrender of the Cubans. First, the Spaniards, when they made their request, carefully concealed the fact that the convict of whom they spoke were political convicts. Secondly, the Spanish police arrested Maceo and the other refugees in the neutral territory. But any claim based upon these grounds appears shadowy. The Spanish Consul

was guilty of a *supressio veri*, but certainly of no such breach of faith as constitutes an offence against international law. The "comity of nations" is a convenient term for any courteous usage which is not strict matter of so-called international law; but it can hardly be said that there are precedents of custom establishing that a State making a request should point out all the reasons why such a request should not be granted. Even the internal laws of a State do not compel a man to disclose the defects of the article he wishes to sell. That is left to the other party to the bargain; and in the cloudy realms of international law or international courtesy such a rule could still less be expected to be maintained. The utmost that could be said is that, in the opinion of Englishmen, Spain has not acted with perfect integrity; and there, we fear, the matter must rest. Nor can any flaw in the title of the Spaniards to keep possession of the refugees be detected in the fact that they were arrested in the neutral territory. This territory is only neutral in the sense that it belongs neither to Spain nor to Great Britain; and it may be assumed that no arrangement, express or tacit, exists forbidding the doing of acts there which are not illegal. We have nothing to do. Whether it be to make themselves popular with the pro-tariff, or the army, or the navy, or the Catholic missionaries, it is all the same to us. France is taking up similar adventures of this sort in Cochin China and in Central Africa, and has within the last few days actually accepted in the pestilential plains of Central Africa a vast cession of territory dubiously obtained by a French midshipman from a negro chief. If she desires to introduce reasonableness into Dahomey, or sweetness and light in the Niger watershed, it is her affair and not ours. Whatever we may think of the wisdom of thus acquiring those opportunities for the waste of blood and treasure, it is plain that we have neither right to interfere nor interest in interfering. We can, therefore, only hope that the unreasoning outcry in England over this Malagasy question may quickly cease, for, whatever may come of it, its continuance will not endure to the dignity or advantage of England, or, we may add, of Madagascar.—*Observer*.

THE GRAND COMMITTEES.

The Spectator says:—There will be much jealousy in the House of the proceedings of these Grand Committees. And the fear is that these jealousies will lead to even longer wrangles after the committees have sat that there would have been any occasion for had the Committees never sat at all:—

It seems to us nearly certain that a great many able lawyers eager for political distinction, and a great many able commercial men who have their own views on commercial matters, will be unable to devote the hours requisite to these Committees; and that where that is the case, they will feel the keenest jealousy of an adverse decision by such Committees in their absence, and will desire to re-hear the House at length their grievances and their counsels. If that should be so, the Grand Committees will hardly bring about the economy of time for which Mr. Gladstone hopes. This is why there seems to us to be a good reason to fear that the experiment, bold and reasonable as it certainly is, will fail.

The Saturday Review says:—An experiment will be tried which is not a fair experiment. If Standing Committees are to lighten the work of the House in a serious and satisfactory way they must deal with matters which are partly, if not wholly contentious, which affect local interests and excite local jealousies, which make Standing Committees representatives of the House in the sense that the bill can be got through Committee by Government pressure, which will afford no special field for the energies of silent workers, and which will stimulate the zeal and ingenuity of those who would wish to see the reported bill submitted in one point after another to the judgment of the House. It may very possibly happen that at the end of next session the House may know nothing more of the probable working of Standing Committees as a permanent and enlarged institution than is known now.

THE PROTECTION OF POLICEMEN.

How to protect our policemen from the revolver of the nocturnal marauder is becoming a serious question. The cruel murder of Constable George Cole, at Dalston, on Friday night, draws renewed attention to the fact that, while the burglar goes armed with deadly weapons whenever he chooses to carry them, the policeman is strictly confined to his truncheon and racket:—

The recklessness of human life shown by the miscreant who shot Cole is the worst feature about the case. The policeman had crossed the road to inquire what the fellow was about, as he was loitering at midnight in the public ways in a suspicious manner, whereupon the burglar, as he presumably was, taking out a revolver, shot the constable dead on the spot. He then decamped, and has not since then been heard of. It is obvious that the state of things disclosed by such a crime is very serious, and portends grave danger to all who may be called upon to face a burglar who objects to being captured. Not only policemen but householders who may at any time be roused from their slumbers by a noise in their downstar regions, have reason to take this dreadfully instructive incident to heart. The latter can protect themselves to a certain extent by having loaded firearms in their houses, by an unsparring use of bulldogs and electric bells and other expensive and possibly dangerous devices; but the policeman is not permitted to carry a revolver. In the first place, a burglar would be less likely to begin shooting if he were confronted with two men instead of one, and this natural hesitancy of the criminal would be increased if he desisted from a pistol in his adversary's hand. The confidence which, under such conditions, policemen would feel would be the safeguard against their recourse to the revolver when not necessary. It must, however, be acknowledged that the safeguard might at times prove unavailing; constables might prefer to have the first shot, and if they mistook a harmless citizen for a burglar the result would be disastrous. In spite of humanitarians, the best remedy for armed "burgling" would be to give any nocturnal robber found with arms in his possession a good dose of the cat-o'-nine-tails, in addition to any other punishment that might befit him.—*Daily Telegraph*.

THE TRIAL AND SENTENCE OF ARABI.

The Cairo correspondent of the Times telegraphed on Sunday:—

The good sense and united efforts of all parties concerned have at length, and not a day too soon, found a satisfactory solution of the vexed question as to the Egyptian State trials. Yesterday the President of the Committee of Preliminary Inquiry wrote to counsel for the defence, proposing to commit Arabi for trial, at once before the Court-martial on the simple charge of rebellion, framed under Article 92 of the Imperial Ottoman Military Code of 1864 and Article 59 of the Ottoman Penal Code of 1856. The text of these enactments is as follows:—

"Article 92.—All persons who to the number of eight or more revolt, using their arms and refuse to disperse, or do not cease the revolt on receiving the orders of a superior authority, may be punished with death. Secondly, whoever without an order from the Government, or without a legal motive, shall assume the command of a division, a fortified place, or city, etc., and any commander who without a legitimate motive shall persist in keeping his troops in arms after their disbandment, has been ordered by the Government, must be punished with death." Considering the proclamations both of the Sultans and the Khedive as regards Arabi, the repeated declarations of the British Government on the subject, and the admissions contained in the two letters of submission sent by Arabi to the Khedive after the battle of Tel-el-Kebir, it would certainly require more special pleading than an Egyptian Court could understand to deny Arabi's responsibility under the very clear provisions of the Ottoman law. Counsel for the defence, after

prolonged consultation with Arabi, having assented by letter to the course proposed, the Committee of Inquiry presented the following report to the President of the Court-martial:—

"To His Excellency Raouf Pacha, President of the Court-martial.—Excellency, we have the honour to report that having heard and examined the evidence against Ahmed Arabi Pacha, we deem such evidence sufficient for his trial before you for the crime of rebellion, as contemplated by Article 92 of the Ottoman Military Code and Article 59 of the Ottoman Penal Code, and we, therefore, send the said Ahmed Arabi for trial before you on your charges. We submit you at the same time the evidence in the case. Signed Eyoub Pacha, President, Cairo, the 2nd December 1882.

The Court-martial convened at 9 this morning in the large hall on the ground floor of the old Dairia Shiekh offices, where all the political prisoners are now confined. In anticipation of a prolonged trial, the room had been most elaborately fitted up on the model of the French Courts of Justice, tables, benches, etc., being draped with green cloth. The members of the Court consisted of Mohamed Raouf Pacha, Ibrahim Pacha Ferid, and Ismail Damil Pacha, all three generals of division; Hussein Assim Pacha, Kurshid Pacha, Suliman Nizay Pacha, and Osman Laif Pacha, all four generals of brigade, with Ahmed Hussane Pacha, of the Navy, and Colonel Suliman Nadjat Bey. The secret had been so well kept that there was only a small attendance, including Sir A. Alison, Major Hutton, his secretary, and some members of the staff, Blum Pacha, Lord Charles Beresford, Dr. Russell, and some correspondents of newspapers, including one lady. Arabi occupied a place behind his counsel, Mr. Bradley and Mr. Napier, who were wig and gown, and close to the seat assigned to me. He has lost flesh since his confinement, and has grown a greyish beard, which greatly alters his appearance; but though his face bears signs of anxiety and care, he looks well and more healthy than he did prior to his imprisonment.

The President of the Court read out the following charge, which had been already communicated to the defence:—"Ahmed Arabi Pacha, you are charged before us on the report of the Committee of Inquiry with rebellion against His Highness the Khedive, and of the committing offences against Article 92 of the Ottoman Military Code, and Article 59 of the Ottoman Penal Code."

"Are you guilty or not guilty?"

On this Mr. Bradley rose, and, taking a paper from Arabi, tendered a plea signed by the accused, the purpose of which he stated to the Court in French. The defendant's answer to the charge was as follows:—

"Of my own free will, and by the advice of my counsel, I plead guilty to the charges now read over to me."

The President said the Court would record the plea, and, having arrived at a decision, would submit it for the consideration of His Highness the Khedive. The Court then adjourned until 3 o'clock this afternoon.

The Court re-assembled at three o'clock this afternoon. The hall was crowded with spectators, including ladies and officers, Nubar Pacha and several officials. After a pause of nearly a quarter of an hour, Arabi entered, showing manifest signs of extreme nervousness. He saluted the court and remained standing. The President said, "Ahmed Arabi, the Court will pronounce sentence."

The Clerk of the Court then read as follows:—

"Whereas Ahmed Arabi Pacha has admitted having committed the crime of rebellion in contravention of Article 92 of the Ottoman Military Code and Article 59 of the Ottoman Penal Code, and whereas, in face of this admission, the Court has only to apply the articles already cited, which punish the crime of rebellion by the penalty of death; for these motives the Court unanimously condemns Ahmed Arabi Pacha to death for the crime of rebellion against His Highness the Khedive by application of the said articles and orders that the said judgment be submitted for the consideration of His Highness the Khedive."

Arabi was given a short respite, during which he was allowed to speak to his wife, who was carried off by scarlet fever some years since.

It is a curious fact that the Archbishop should have died on Advent Day, a day that he had always regarded as a painful anniversary. Mr. Tait having expired on Advent Sunday, 1878, the same year in which his only son also died at Edinburgh. A touching episode in connection with the last two days of his life was the message brought him on Friday from the Queen by the Marchioness of Ely. The Archbishop expressed his determination to write a reply, and was therefore raised in his bed, and wrote a message expressing his loyalty and affection to her Majesty, but nothing beyond the signature could be read.

The immediate cause of death was failure of the spinal nervous system, one proof of which was the tremors that sometimes came over him, affecting the arm seized by paralysis fourteen years since, but from which he had recovered. His Grace was first taken ill in the middle of August, having caught a severe cold in returning from the confirmation of the two sons of the Prince of Wales at Osborne. Dr. Carpenter strongly advised him not to go, but he persisted in doing so, remarking that it was the last thing he would have to do for the Queen, and he meant to do it. On his return, congestion of the right lung set in, followed by pneumonia, embolism of the left lung speedily developing.

The situation was then most critical, but the strength of the Archbishop was sufficient to enable him to come round. Then ensued embolism of the kidneys, in which cysts had formed, affecting the spinal column; and this was the ultimate trouble that defied the skill of the medical attendants. Throughout his life he had been a recluse, following a strict regimen of diet, and was never seen in public except on his way to church or to his study.

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NICE.—15, QUAI MASSENA.

Great Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 4—5, 1882.

ARABI ON HIS SENTENCE.

We publish, says the *Times*, the most remarkable of the communications which Arabi Pacha has addressed to us. By an arrangement which had long been recommended in our columns and which Lord Dufferin, with the assent of the Queen's Government, induced the Egyptian authorities to adopt, Arabi was allowed to plead guilty to the offence of rebellion against the Khedive, and of thereby contravening certain articles of the Ottoman Military Code; the gravest charges against him, relating to the massacre at Alexandria, being abandoned. His condemnation to death and the commutation of the sentence were told to the world on Monday. With extraordinary promptitude comes the appeal of the revolutionary chief, who accepts his new position, and with a skill and plausibility which have never deserted him, attempts to make the best of it. He places himself under the protection of England, to whose conscience he throughout appeals, and in whose justice both to him and his country he asserts his full trust and confidence. He will cheerfully proceed to whatever spot England will be pleased to appoint as his residence.

The abandonment of the charges of massacre and incendiarism has, he says, proved his innocence of them. But Arabi's political suggestions form the most interesting part of the letter.

We may say that, though they seem to display a certain dexterity of compliment, we believe them to be grounded in a conviction which possesses a multitude of the most able Egyptians. Arabi fought us, but now that we have beaten him he has come to the conclusion that we are the only people at once strong enough and honest enough to do a good work in the country. England cannot delay the reforms which he and his struggled for, and among these the Anglo-French Control will be abolished, and "Egypt will be no more in the hands of a myriad of foreign employers, filling every available post to the exclusion of Egyptians." When England has given liberty and prosperity to the Egyptians, Arabi hopes that he may be allowed to revisit the country before he dies. He thinks those who have been considerate towards him, or have befriended him in his troubles, and expresses his confidence that England will "never have cause to repent of the generosity and humanity she has displayed towards a man against whom she has fought." It must certainly be admitted that this last communication of "Arabi the Egyptian" has much in it that is dignified and impressive.

ARCHBISHOP TAIT'S SUCCESSOR.

The death of the Archbishop of Canterbury has left a vacancy which it will be by no means easy to fill. Archbishop Tait created and satisfied so high a standard of work and policy that his successor cannot fall back into the habits of the easy-going Prelates of older days without causing disappointment almost amounting to scandal. It will be expected of the new Archbishop of Canterbury that he shall possess not only piety, learning, and courtesy, but also something of that comprehensive tolerance and that liberal statesmanship which have for the last fourteen years drawn admiring attention to Lambeth. Though the choice of the Sovereign and the recommendation of the Prime Minister are technically unfettered, yet custom necessarily brings into prominence the occupants of the higher sees. The sees now entitled to precedence over the rest are, besides the Archbishopric of York, the Bishoprics of London, Durham, and Winchester. The present Archbishop of York reached his lofty elevation with almost unexampled rapidity but no one expects that Archbishop Thomson will receive any further ecclesiastical advancement. The Bishop of London, whose blameless life and orthodox principles are universally recognised, was born in the same year as the late Archbishop, and it cannot be supposed that Bishop Jackson would suddenly develop vigour and ascendancy of character, which were never among his leading characteristics. The Bishop of Winchester, whose age is also seventy-one, has won general respect and affection. His learning is considerable, and his book on the Articles of Religion has become a standard work. As a Professor of Divinity at Cambridge, as Bishop of Ely, and as successor to Bishop Wilberforce at Winchester, Dr. Harold Browne has never made an enemy, and he has treated with equal justice and even courtesy all the conflicting parties in the Church. But his age may be held to unfit him for undertaking new and more arduous duties, while his moral virtues and mental endowments are not of the kind which Dr. Tait made so useful to the Church and to the country. If, however, the traditions of former days were followed, and the new Primate were chosen not so much for positive merits as for the absence of defects, there is no one whose name would excite less opposition than the Bishop of Winchester's. The Bishop of Durham is a man of different and of rarer stamp. As a classical scholar Bishop Lightfoot is inferior to very few living Englishmen. He is a preacher of great power, who, if not gifted with Canon Liddon's persuasive rhetoric or the Bishop of Peterborough's commanding eloquence, abhors platitude, delights in argument, and is always rational, solid, and impressive.

THE UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE SENTENCE ON ARABI.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphed on Monday night:—

The proceedings of the Court-martial yesterday have produced here a profound sensation. In official circles, amongst Ministers themselves, though it is reported that Riaz has fallen ill from suppressed indignation, the prevalent feeling is one of relief that the dangerous question which threatened to block all progress in other vital matters has been finally removed.

Amongst the lower class natives the general impression is unquestionably satisfactory. There can be no doubt but that Arabi was accepted as the representative of a national idea—crude, perhaps, and premature, but genuine. Yesterday's sentence, saving him from the unscrupulous vindictiveness of all alien Oligarchs, had done more than all proclamations and official assurances to show that the action of England had been inspired by feelings of hostility towards Egypt and those who aspire to be the Egyptians a nation. I happened this morning to meet the son of one of the chief prisoners, and the boy's simple description of the joy and gratitude to England with which yesterday's glad tidings was received in his own home fully confirmed the reports reaching me from all quarters, and leading to the belief that there is scarcely an Egyptian house in Cairo which does not share the same feeling. Arabi himself, as I learn from Mr. Broadbent, on returning to his prison after the trial yesterday afternoon, first knelt devoutly to thank the Almighty for the mercy which had delivered him out of the hands of his enemies, then, embracing his counsel, expressed to him in terms of deep and visible emotion his gratitude, not only for the indefatigable zeal displayed by his advocates, but for the loyal and generous treatment he had received at the hands of the British authorities and people. Fairness and justice are virtues so rare in the East that it is not at all surprising that Arabi should consider their exercise on his behalf due to a direct interposition of Providence.

Amongst Anglo-Egyptians I must in fairness say the prevailing feelings are very different, and I hear language of condemnation so strong that those who utter it will, in calmer moments, be probably sorry to find that it had been reported. It must be remembered that many of them suffered personally through recent events, and this sense of injury must be pleaded as an explanation of their bitterness. Meanwhile, the fact that feeling is very strong among them is uncontested.

It is plainly declared that yesterday's decision was a deliberate sacrifice of justice to the exigencies of British Party politics. The British Government being resolved to save Arabi's life at all costs, insisted on the withdrawal of all criminal charges, because, had he been tried on those issues, the prisoner could never have escaped the penalty of death.

This is not accurate. As a matter of fact, the prosecution was allowed complete liberty, almost amounting to unfair licence, in drawing up its case, and it was only after being advised by competent authorities that the evidence collected failed to support the case for the accusers that the British Government brought influence to bear on the Egyptian Ministry to secure lenient treatment of a man whom it had become impossible to regard otherwise than as a purely political offender.

The Alexandria correspondent of the same paper says:—

The entire Christian population here is in a condition of the utmost indignation at England's interference in the trial of Arabi Pacha, whose guilt in connection with the massacre, burning, and killing at Alexandria is regarded as beyond doubt. This afternoon, in the Rue des Sours, the scene of the butchery of the 11th of June, a native demonstration took place in honour of Arabi's victory. The presence of the Queen's uniform is now regarded as inevitable for years to come if the Christians are to be preserved from massacre and pillage.

LORD WOLSELEY ON THE EGYPTIAN CAMPAIGN.

Lord Wolseley and other officers of the Egyptian Expedition were entertained at dinner by Sir W. Armstrong and the Institute of Civil Engineers on Monday night:—

In replying to the toast of his health the gallant General said he begged in the name of his comrades who had recently returned from Egypt and in his own name to thank the company most heartily for the honour that had been done him. They had a claim to the gratitude of the English people except that, to the best of their ability, they had done their duty to their Queen and country. (Cheers.) He and his comrades there were proud of the part they had taken in the recent campaign, but proud, as they were of it, they were ready to admit that others not present were worthy to share in the honour which had been done them that evening. In the recent campaign English soldiers, for the first time since the Crimean War, had encountered a regular army. They had since the war with Russia encountered Zulus, Ashantees, Maoris, men who brought against them bows and arrows, assegais, and shields, who in many cases had no artillery at all, and when they had field guns did not know how to use them. But in the late war they met with a regular army. He saw it stated in some newspapers that the enemy they met in Egypt were not worthy of the British steel. But, though from saying that an Egyptian was equal to an Englishman, he believed that no man in the world was equal to an Englishman—(cheers)—he did not share in the opinion of those who had ignorance or envy would fain decry what had been done, and say that the enemy were not

worth fighting against. The Egyptian army was well-found in all appliances of warfare that were essential to success. It had a fine artillery—indeed, the guns were the same as had been used by the Germans in the Franco-German war. He could not say the safety of the cavalry, for our men generally saw their backs. (A laugh.) But with regard to their infantry, they were excellently drilled, disciplined, and armed; but their officers were not so well-educated and instructed and were drawn from the same class as the men themselves.

But the Egyptians were pitted against an infantry the best in the world. (Cheers.) We had splendid soldiers commanded by splendid regimental officers. (Cheers.) He did not agree with those who said that small wars taught us but little. He believed that from the small wars in which we had been engaged from time to time for the last twenty-five years we had gained great experience, and that we had been able to eliminate the good officers from the bad and to select the best men. How different was the information possessed by the officers who landed at Ismailia from that of the officers who landed in the Crimea. He was speaking in the presence of the highest scientific authorities in the world, and he would say that the great superiority we had from first to last over the Egyptian artillery was this that our guns when in action were trained to overtake twice their number.

The Egyptian gunners were excellent shots, but the reason we defeated them was that while the Egyptians used the old-fashioned common shell which they had obtained from Messrs. Krupp, we adopted the shrapnel shell.

The Egyptian shells sank deeply into the earth before they exploded. That alone furnished a lesson which we ought to take to heart—namely, that no nation could afford to fall behind other nations in the inventions of the day and the nation which did had nothing before it but disaster staring it in the face. (Cheers.)

He could not conceive a greater folly than that a Government should stand still from motives of economy waiting until something better might be discovered and allow its army to be armed with an inferior rifle or an inferior gun when they knew that other nations possessed superior weapons. He knew no great treason that could be committed by a Government. (Cheers.) It would be very instructive for any one to take up an Army list of 1851 and 1852 and compare the two. It would be generally admitted by any one who knew anything about the matter that in the Crimean Army the man selected for command or for the Staff was chosen on account of his personal connections. But if they turned to the Army which had gone to Egypt they would find a very great difference. In the Crimean there was not a single officer belonging either to the Artillery or Engineers employed in command of a division or brigade. But how different was the case in the Egyptian expedition. On the Head Quarters Staff there were 25 competent officers, and out of these 12 were either Engineers or Artillerymen. (Cheers.) On his own personal staff, out of four Aides-de-Camp one was an Engineer and another an Artilleryman. The Chief of the Staff was Sir J. Adye, who was second in command, and no general in the field was ever more ably and logically seconded than he was by Sir J. Adye. (Cheers.) The brigade to which fell the brunt of all the fighting—"the fighting brigade"—as he might call it, was commanded by an Engineer, General Graham (cheers)—a very old friend of a man with the heart of a lion and the modesty of a young girl. (Cheers.) In short, they had not liked the great reforms introduced of recent years, but which, in his humble opinion, had made the Army what it was, to endeavour to make out that politics had entered into these reforms. Of all the cruel things ever said that was the most cruel. He had served under two Liberal and two Conservative War Ministers—under Lord Cardwell and Lord Cranbury, Colonel Stanley and Mr. Chidlers; and if he were to go into the witness-box he could conscientiously say, if he were asked which of these four was the greatest Army reformer, that it was Colonel Stanley. (Cheers.) They were told by those who objected to these reforms that the Army would be destroyed, that it would be formed of the scum of the population, that its officers would no longer belong to the same class, and that it could not march and could not fight. He would advise the men who said the Army could not march to take a pack on their backs in July or August and march from Ismailia to Cairo, and then say whether the Army could not march. (Cheers.) And for their fighting qualities he would appeal to General Lowe, to Macpherson, to Graham, and ask them did not their soldiers charge home with their bayonets and their swords as well as the men of former days. (Renewed cheers.) If our men when they got to Cairo had given way to the curse of our race—dissipation—it would not have been only dirty water to drink. But this he could say, that during the five weeks he had been in Cairo he had never seen a drunken soldier. (Loud cheers.)

FASHIONABLE NEWS.

The Empress Eugénie went to Windsor Castle on Monday afternoon on a visit to the Queen. Princess Beatrice, attended by Lady Biddulph and Colonel Sir J. M'Neill, met the Empress at the South-Western Station, Windsor, and accompanied her to the Castle, where she remains the guest of the Queen.

The Duke of Edinburgh, accompanied by Prince Christian, left Charing-cross for East-Westminster on Monday evening.

The Duke of Westminster, who came to town expressly to attend her Majesty, as Master of the Horse, at the opening of the new law courts, and the Duchess left Grosvenor House for Eaton Hall on Monday evening.

The Earl and Countess of Donoughmore have left town for Cannes for the winter.

The Earl and Countess of Meath, and Lady Mary Saville have left Methley Park for Wymster.

Lord Carlisle, Lord Privy Seal, left town on Saturday evening for The Priory, Chelton, Mendip.

Sir F. A. Milbank, M.P., though still confined to his room, is recovering.

REUTER.—The Broad Arrow stimulus stands that a considerable number of men who were given to recruiting at all our military stations by the late war in Egypt were not worthy of the British steel. But, though from saying that an Egyptian was equal to an Englishman, he believed that no man in the world was equal to an Englishman—(cheers)—he did not share in the opinion of those who had ignorance or envy would fain decry what had been done, and say that the enemy were not

THE LATE PRIMATE.

Besides the telegrams from the Queen and other members of the Royal family, messages of sympathy were received from a number of distinguished persons in England and abroad on Monday morning. In one delivery there were more than a hundred communications, including fifty telegrams—from America and Australia, all couched in terms of earnest sympathy. The Archbishop's remains will be interred in Addington Churchyard, where are already buried Mrs. Tait and the Primate's son Crawford, and where Archbishops Stanton, Sumner, and Longley lie. The family having decided to decline respectfully the offer of a tomb in Westminster Abbey, which it had been suggested that these remains should be interred in, the wish of the deceased Primate to be buried in Addington Churchyard was carried out.

On Saturday night—in deference to the wish of the deceased Primate. The inscription on the coffin—Archbishop Campbell Tait, Archbishop of Canterbury. Born 21st December, 1811; died 3rd December, 1882. The funeral will take place on Friday next, at 12.30.

Friends who desire to be present at the funeral are invited to communicate at o.

letter or telegram, with the Rev. Han. T. Davidson, Addington Park, Croydon.

Tickets admitting to the church and churchyard will be issued as far as the very limited accommodation admits, consideration being given to the claims of close personal friendship or of official position.

Addington-park is distant three and a half miles from East Croydon Station, and particulars as to trains and other arrangements will be made public to-morrow or on Thursday.

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NICE 1-15, QUAI MASSENA.

THE TRIALS IN IRELAND.

Mr. Davitt, Mr. Healy, and Mr. Quinn were summoned to the Queen's Bench Division (Dublin) on Tuesday, not to answer a specific charge, but to give security to be of good behaviour towards the Queen and her subjects, or to show cause why such security should not be exacted. From the affidavits appended to the notices served on the Defendants they could learn what the facts were which made the proceedings necessary. But beyond the general allegation that speeches such as his tended to crime, to class enmities, and to wide-spread lawlessness, there was nothing to disclose to Mr. Davitt that he and his co-Defendants had broken any law or were summoned under any Statute. The Attorney-General for Ireland had, it is true, asserted in the House of Commons that he was hesitating between two; but not till Mr. Davitt begged for information on the subject in Court was the secret revealed. The Crown appeals to the inherent and original jurisdiction of the Court as moulded by an Act passed in the 10th and 11th year of Charles I., and a corresponding statute in England of James I. These certainly are not reigns to which a Liberal Government might be expected to revert for precedents and powers. We are not, of course, in a position to question the jurisdiction of the Court of Queen's Bench in the matter. But the Judges themselves are of opinion that to invoke it is a wholly novel thing. In this uncharitable world, even Governments have to think not only whether a given course is right, but whether it is seemly; and the enemies of the Irish Executive will, we think, find it easy to represent what has now been done in a scandalous—or what, perhaps, is even more fatal, a ridiculous—light. Dublin Castle, it will be said, having exhausted invention in devising coercive legislation, has now strained the law in order to supplement it. The special Statutes of Victoria have not gone far enough in imposing restraints on liberty; the musty rolls of the bad reigns of Charles and James are exhorted to furnish others till now undreamt of. Offences have been multiplied; it is not enough; men are called to give security for good behaviour when they have broken no law. This is what will be urged, and the Irish people will receive it as honest truth. And, it must be owned, the agitators have got a tempting text. While the first act in this drama was being gone through in the Queen's Bench Division, Mr. Justice O'Brien, who has opened the Dublin Commission, was engaged in sterner work. In January last, Lord Ardilaun's bailiff and a boy who was with him were foully and cruelly murdered. Little by little the mystery which shrouded their fate has been dispelled, and on Tuesday three men were arraigned for the offence. The trial has, however, been postponed, in the interest of the Prisoners. The Grand Jury have also found true bills against the three men arrested in connection with the murder of Detective Cox, and against Delaney for the attempt on the life of Mr. Justice Lawson. There is no indication that a Commission of three Judges will be substituted for the system of a Judge and Special Jurors, which has hitherto, so far as the claims of Justice are concerned, worked so well. Everyone feels that the period of these trials will be a crucial one in the struggle between Law and Conspiracy. The employment of Marines to supplement the over-taxed Police is a judicious measure, and has, we are glad to observe, been received in a reasonable and becoming spirit by organs of opinion which have hitherto seldom lost an opportunity of misrepresenting the acts of the Executive. There is, indeed, a very strong practical reason why all who have any concern for the welfare of Dublin should desire to see the reign of violence and panic at an end. It is mere irrelevance to plead that ordinary crime is not excessive. Extraordinary crime is, beyond question, rife, and the perpetual menace is even worse than the actual outbreak. Its effects are seen, as Mr. Justice O'Brien pointed out in his charge to the Grand Jury, in languishing trade and deserted streets. Unfortunately, the condition of the capital is not distinguishable from that of the provinces. In the five counties for which Mr. Justice O'Brien opened the Commission the statistics of grave agrarian crime are as bad as ever. The improvement that cheered the too sanguine spirit of Mr. Trevelyan was in threatening letter cases only, and these are fewer because they have ceased to be effective. The daily record of outrages elsewhere shows that what is true of the counties round the capital is true also of the country as a whole. The congestion at the centre has not relieved the extremities.—Standard.

THE COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1882.

THE QUEEN walked and drove yesterday afternoon, attended by the Hon. Horatio Stopford. The Empress Eugenie, attended by Madame D'Arcos and the Duc de Bassano, arrived at the Castle yesterday afternoon. Princess Beatrice, attended by the Hon. Lady Biddulph and Major-General Sir J. C. McNeill, K.C.B., went to the railway station in Windsor and met the Empress and accompanied her to the Castle. Her Majesty, attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, received the Empress at the entrance. Major-General Sir Evelyn Wood, K.C.B., and the Hon. Lady Wood and Captain F. G. Slade, A.D.C., Royal Artillery, also arrived at the Castle. Her Majesty's dinner party included the Empress Eugenie and Princess Beatrice, Lady Waterpark, Madame D'Arcos, the Duc de Bassano, the Earl of Dalhousie, Major-General Sir Evelyn and the Hon. Lady Wood, Major-General Sir John C. McNeill, and Captain Slade. The Queen and Princess Beatrice walked and drove this morning. Sir Evelyn and the Hon. Lady Wood and Captain Slade have left the Castle. Lady Abercromby has succeeded Lady Waterpark as Lady in Waiting.

THE LONDON GOSSIP.

THE OPENING of the Law Courts, so far as the arrangements of the Office of her Majesty's Works were concerned, was a great and deserved success. It was determined by Mr. Shaw-Lefevre and the indefatigable secretary, Mr. A. B. Mitford, that the occasion should be marked by a gathering, not merely of the fashionable company, a list of whom can be found after any big ball in the columns of the *Morn. Post*, but of the really notable people of every profession, whose names are associated with the intellectual progress of the age. This idea was thoroughly carried out, notwithstanding the fact that the number of tickets at the disposal of the Office was limited to a few hundred, among whom members of Parliament and Benchers of the various Inns of Court claimed precedence.

I saw Sir Henry Thompson, Sir James Paget in Court dress, Sir Oscar Clayton in uniform, Mr. Spencer Wells in a doctor's gown, and Dr. Priestly, as representatives of medical science; Professor Huxley in Court dress; and Professor Tyndall in plain clothes; Mr. Robert Browning, Mr. Matthew Arnold, Mr. F. C. Burnand, very difficult to recognise in his barrister's wig, Sir Theodore and Lady Martin, Mr. E. L. Lawson, resplendent in scarlet, "the Arabian" disguised in horsehair, Mr. E. B. Lucy, Mr. T. W. Bowles, Mr. Smalley, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. John Morley, Mr. Balfour, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. B. C. P. Milner, for art, Mr. Burnand's wig was not nearly so beautiful as that donned by Mr. Arthur Beckett. Mr. Burnand's head-covering might have seen many years' service on the back benches, while its owner was enjoying "happy thoughts" unconnected with his profession; Mr. Arthur Beckett, who has a family connection with Mr. Brieless, had thatched his lively brain with a lovely peruke, white and crisp as a cauliflower.

The dignity of the Bar was well expressed in the majestic figures and imposing demeanour of the Attorney and Solicitor General. There was a double ruck in the floorcloth, about half-way up the hall—a pitfall which nearly brought many celebrities to grief. Over it stumbled Sir Frederick Bramwell, looking like the patriarch Casby in *Little Dorrit* after his hair had been cut by Pancks; Mr. Ashmead-Barrett, M.P., in full regalia, as fiery as the lion on the poster of his own *England*; Captain Shaw, as cool as he always is under fire; General Higginson, who in many quarters was mistaken for Lord Wolseley; and a warrior with a nodding plume, who was at first supposed to be the late Duke of Wellington off the arch, at Constitution Hill, but who proved to be Sir Gabriel Goldney. The arrival of Mr. Henry Irving and Miss Ellen Terry created much excitement. The two girls of the Royal Alfred were not *Org. Magog*, but Lord Alfred Page and Lord B. Burnand.

Her Majesty seemed in excellent health and spirits, and was warmly welcomed. Many comments were made on the broken and care-worn appearance of Lord Chancellor; but his voice betrayed no sign of illness or fatigue. The friends and family of Sir Tatton and Lady Sykes have been taken by surprise at the announcement that both had embraced the tenets of the Roman Catholic Church, and been received as members. The first intelligence of the important event is said to have been conveyed by the little son and heir, young Mark Sykes, who the other day informed his astonished grand-aunt that he had been baptised that morning. Mr. George Cavendish Bentinck, father of Lady Sykes, left London the next day. The Duke of Norfolk stood sponsor to Lady Sykes on the important occasion of her being baptised into the Roman Catholic Church.

The going over to Rome of Sir Tatton Sykes and his wife is the most important event of the kind that has occurred since the Marquis of Ripon became "vert." According to the new Doomsday-book, Sir Tatton owns a rent-roll of some £36,000 a year in the East Riding of Yorkshire alone. Sir Tatton inherited this magnificent property in 1863; and some eleven years afterwards surprised his friends by marrying the elder of Mr. Cavendish-Bentinck's two daughters. The lady is his junior by more than a quarter of a century, but, however, is a member of affluence, as may be judged from the fact that it is with one accord the happy pair have embraced the "old faith." But it is enough to make auld Sir Tatton turn in his grave; and as for Christopher-leigh! The three properties of Lord Herries, Sir Tatton Sykes, and Lord Ripon, now placed in Roman Catholic hands, will, together, constitute a stretch of country extending from Beverley on the east to the borders of Lancashire in the west, in the finest district in England.

SO impressed were the Indian Contingent with the gracious condescension of their Empress that they propose to make a present to her Majesty, praying that she will be graciously pleased to appoint a special bodyguard, to be selected from her Indian regiments, to serve a term of two years, till the rota has been thoroughly exhausted. With real *esprit de corps* these gallant soldiers have determined that, in case their prayer is answered, the cost will not come out of the Imperial Exchequer.

I fear the published accounts of Mr. Anthony Trollope's state are too roseate a picture. From what I learn Mr. Trollope is in a most precarious condition, suffering from exceeding restlessness, and almost wholly unable to express himself articulately. The Queen has made it a special point, notwithstanding some opposition from the authorities on the score of expense, that, before the troops leave for Egypt, they shall be sent in detachments up the Nile for a few days, believing most wisely that it will be very beneficial to their health.

THE LATE EARL OF BEACONSFIELD'S VACANT STALL IN THE CHAPEL OF ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR, HAS NOT BEEN FILLED. The Queen, as a mark of respect for his memory, determined it should be unoccupied for a twelvemonth; but nearly two years have passed since the death of the great Conservative leader, and her Majesty has not given up his blue ribbon.

Mr. Houghton has been most seriously ill during the last week, suffering from inflammation of the lungs, contracted by exposure to cold during the Royal Review. His lordship is better, but still not in a condition to free his friends from anxiety.

THE ROYAL PARTY STAYING WITH LORD AND LADY WALSHAM AT MERTON THE OTHER DAY WERE CONTENTED TO AMUSE THEMSELVES BY VERY SIMPLE AND ANCIENT GAMES. Dumb cranium, in which the Prince joined heartily and with zest, spelling words from a box of letters, and, one night, an impromptu dance on a very limited scale, were the diversions of the three evenings of their visit.

THE SPORT AT GUNTON HALL WAS VERY GOOD LAST WEEK. Mr. Mundy and his friends shot a large quantity of pheasants and a good proportion of hares, though the bags were not so large as last year. Lord Claud Hamilton and Lord Berkeley Page were amongst the gunners.

THE GREAT BAG OF THE YEAR HAS BEEN MADE AT CROXTETH, WHERE LORD SEFTON AND HIS FRIENDS KILLED 7,674 HEAD IN FIVE DAYS, AVERAGING 1,279 HEAD FOR EACH OF THE SIX GUNS. OF THESE THERE WERE 5,543 PHEASANTS AND 1,250 HARES. THE WILD FOWLS MADE A SMALL ITEM IN THIS ENORMOUS BAG—410 WILD DUCKS, BESIDES SOME WOODPECKERS, WHICH WERE MANY, WERE SHOT IN THE FIVE DAYS.

THE LAST BODY OF THE CUMBERLAND MOUNTAINS—THE BODY OF JONATHAN THOMPSON, FARMER, NEAR KESWICK, WAS FOUND ON MONDAY IN A HOLLOW NEAR SADDLEBACK. DURING A SNOW-STORM ON SATURDAY HE WENT SHEPHERDING ON SADDLEBACK. SHORTLY AFTERWARDS THE DOG RETURNED ALONE, AND AS IT WAS FEARED THAT SOME ACCIDENT HAD HAPPENED, A SEARCH PARTY WAS FORMED, AND AT LENGTH THE DEAD BODY WAS FOUND. THE DECEASED WAS A NATIVE OF BORROWDALE, AND TWENTY-THREE YEARS OF AGE.

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NOTICE.

A Four-page Supplement is published with this day's number of the MESSENGER, and will be delivered gratis with each copy of the paper. It contains our American news and an interesting variety of literary extracts.

Great Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 6-7, 1882.

LOUIS BLANC.

The death of M. Louis Blanc, which took place at Cannes on Wednesday after a comparatively short illness, removes one more of that older generation of Republican statesmen which is fast passing away. M. Louis Blanc occupied a peculiar and almost unique place in French politics. He was in no sense a popular speaker, and his writings, though they had a revolutionary reputation and flavour, were of a philosophical cast. He was himself essentially a moralist and a philosopher. An exile in England during the Imperial régime, he gained in this country universal esteem. He was a welcome visitor in social circles where no sympathy was felt for his views on the constitution of society; but where his accomplishments, his vivacity, and his high-mindedness were cordially recognised. His short figure became at one time somewhat familiar on the platforms of institutions in our large towns. His mastery of the English language, which he spoke accurately, though always with something of effort, and his complete knowledge of French history and politics, made his lectures valuable in promoting a better understanding of our neighbours and their problems. As a politician he was a thinker rather than an actor. His ideal was too high for realisation. It assumed in all men a disinterestedness not much inferior to his own. The Organisation of Labour which he preached was based on the idea of substituting co-operation for competition, of persuading men to labour for the community instead of for themselves, or for themselves not as units but as parts of the great whole. Individualism was to M. Louis Blanc the source of most of the evils from which modern communities suffer. The cure he believed to be, in his own words, "in the absorption of the individual in a vast solidarity in which each one should receive according to his wants, and should contribute according to his faculties." The idea is visionary, but M. Blanc never abandoned it. The revolution was hardly three months old when M. Louis Blanc was the object of a hostile demonstration, from which he had to take refuge in the house of a political opponent, and at length to escape to Belgium, and thence to England. He remained in England till the revolution of 1870 re-opened France to him, and the Government of the National Defence would have sent him to ask English aid for France if he had been allowed to pass out through the Prussian lines. He probably sympathised with the proposal for a Federal instead of a Centralised Republic in France, but he supported M. Thiers. Since the formal establishment of the Republic he has remained a member of the Chamber of Deputies, the darling of the French working classes, one of the leaders of the minority of the Extreme Left, but not an insatiable or irreconcilable, though disinterested by nature, for the acceptance, perhaps even for the full understanding, of the opportunism which M. Gambetta has made a powerful element in French politics. He had not Ledru-Rollin's power. He was gentler, quieter, more reticent, less of a politician, and more of a philosopher. In no sense did he answer to the typical revolutionist, yet his views, held tenaciously and with the noblest motives behind them, were more revolutionary than those of any of his political friends. He was marked out by his popularity with the working classes as a member of the Provisional Government in 1848. Had he been animated at this time by mere personal ambition instead of enthusiasm for what he regarded as a great cause, he might have made himself, for a time at least, Dictator of Paris. It was at this crisis of his life that the strength of M. Louis Blanc's character came out in the most striking manner. His first step was to procure the immediate abolition of capital punishment for political offences. His second proposal was the creation of a Ministry of Progress. His colleagues refused to act on this suggestion, but granted him a Workmen's Commission, of which he was the President. This Commission sat in the Old Peers' Chamber at the Luxembourg, and he called them the Peers of Labour. It was not he, but some of his colleagues, who set up the National Workshops. They took this step by way of answer to the exaggerated hopes on one side and the fears on the other which the Luxembourg meeting aroused. The workshops failed, as M. Blanc himself expected. They were established in opposition to his advice, and their complete breakdown in no way involved any of his own theories of social reform. Partly in consequence of this mistake of his colleagues he was obliged himself to disappoint his friends. The socialistic workers who had learned his theories, but not his patience and self-control, were in a hurry to effect the organisation of labour by further revolution. M. Louis Blanc restrained them. He used his whole influence to maintain order, and it passed away to more violent men. In the midst of the troubles which broke out in May he nearly fell a victim to both sides, and was obliged to fly from France. The history of his connection with the Revolution of 1848 was only gradually understood. He came here under the unfounded suspicion which had pursued him in Paris, of complicity in the Communistic rising. A similar suspicion, equally baseless, arose respecting him in some alarmed minds in 1871. M. Louis Blanc, however, was a revolutionist only in his principles. He would not in any case have resorted to violence to establish the new social order he wished to found. He would have brought it about by a force of ideas alone. He was a propagandist of the pen and not of the sword.—*Daily News.*

BURNING OF THE ALHAMBRA THEATRE.

About one o'clock on Thursday morning the Alhambra Theatre in Leicester-square was discovered to be on fire, and information was at once despatched to the police and fire brigades in all the districts. Down to two o'clock it was impossible to get accurate information as to how the fire originated, the theatre had been closed as usual after the evening performance, and everything left apparently safe. The first symptoms of danger seem to have been observed about one o'clock on Thursday morning, and the alarm was at once sent in every direction. In an amazingly short space of time the building was full of flame, which burst through windows and roof with incredible rapidity. The materials of the interior were well calculated to yield readily to the flames, and once they got hold of the roof the side wind which was blowing rapidly fanned them into a glowing furnace. A strong force of police was soon in Leicester-square, keeping back the public, who already began to crowd the thoroughfares leading to the place, from possible danger, and allowing the firemen room for their operations. Within half an hour the roof of the theatre yielded to the flames, which then burst up high into the air, followed by myriads of brilliant sparks, and accompanied by volumes of grey smoke. The square was lighted up with a noonday brilliancy, and a ruddy glow was cast over the whole of the neighbouring district of Soho. Thousands of people congregated from all parts, but they were kept at a safe distance from the burning building by strong patrols of police placed at the streets leading into Leicester-square. The greatest excitement prevailed, the locality being one of the most densely populated in the metropolis, and the streets very narrow. The Alhambra itself is flanked on each side by dwelling-houses, hotels, and schools, while behind it, extending from Cranbourne-street down St. Martin's-lane, are huge blocks of property used as dwelling-houses, and many of them let out in tenements. At one time it seemed as if the whole of the east side of Leicester-square would be destroyed, but the efforts of the well-qualified fire brigade were successful in limiting the flames to a space much less than could have been expected. The Alhambra itself is gutted and the building destroyed. At 2.45 a.m. the fire was still burning.

Another account says:—About one o'clock on Thursday it was discovered that the Alhambra Theatre was on fire. The performance of the *Merry War*, the open which was being given at the theatre, had concluded shortly after 1 o'clock, and the different assistants had left the house, as they imagined, in a state of security. The fire first broke out in the large saloon at the back of the second circle, and by the time it was discovered had obtained a firm hold of the premises. The alarm was quickly given to the different fire-stations; but it was some time before the engines could arrive, and the inflammable nature of the burning building enabled the flames to spread rapidly. An enormous crowd collected, and it was with great difficulty that the police could keep the square clear for the engines. Ultimately about a dozen steam engines and six "manuals" were brought to play upon the burning building, and by two o'clock the flames were visibly decreasing, although it was clear that the whole theatre was wrecked. Some houses at the back in Castle-street had also caught fire, and distressing scenes were witnessed as poor people living in these made every effort to remove their worldly possessions. Capt. Shewell, who was on the scene shortly after the alarm had been given, and actively superintended the action of the firemen. At 2.30 the fire was still raging with great fury, and it was expected every minute that the two towers that capped the front of the building on either side would fall. Amongst those who were attracted to the scene were to be noticed a large number of actors and persons engaged in theatrical business generally, and among these expressions of regret were prevalent on account of the great loss the fire will cause to all those of the profession who were engaged for the Christmas piece. This piece was to have been mounted on a very big scale, and it is estimated that at least 300 persons would be thrown out of employment at the very worst season of the year.

The building which has thus been destroyed by fire was not a very old one, but it may be noted that it stood almost exactly on the site of the Anatomical Museum of John Hunter, the celebrated surgeon, now transferred to the College of Surgeons in Lincoln's Inn-fields. The structure was in the Moorish or Arabesque style of architecture, and was opened in 1852, not as a theatre, but as a place of popular instruction, something of the same character as the Polytechnic. It was named "The Royal Panopticon of Science and Art," and was the suggestion of several philanthropic individuals anxious to combine something of amusement with instruction. The building was large, and the interior decorations and appointments were very complete; but the speculation did not succeed, and the joint-stock company formed to start it broke up in a very few years. The house was for a time closed, but was re-opened under the name of the Alhambra as a place of amusement. It was intended to combine the music-hall with the theatre, but the latter was not a success, and the joint-stock company formed to start it broke up in a very few years. The house was for a time closed, but was re-opened under the name of the Alhambra as a place of amusement. It was intended to combine the music-hall with the theatre, but the latter was not a success, and the joint-stock company formed to start it broke up in a very few years. The house was for a time closed, but was re-opened under the name of the Alhambra as a place of amusement. It was intended to combine the music-hall with the theatre, but the latter was not a success, and the joint-stock company formed to start it broke up in a very few years. The house was for a time closed, but was re-opened under the name of the Alhambra as a place of amusement. 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PARIS, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1882.

among the dismal cover of *tripe de roche*.

In Greenland the men or women who cannot sail in a leather boat must stay at home as soon as the "us-fod" disappears and the mollemoke makes noisy the cliffs bordering the lonely fjords. But the September snow is the signal for pleasant feasting and merrymaking. The dog sledge skims along the surface of the snow-covered frozen sea; the seal arrives on the coast; the reindeer and the ptarmigan are driven down to the lowlands, and life is made all the more tolerable that food is abundant, and some means of amusement possible in a country which, even if it be at the back of the north wind, the old Moravian priest considered one of the most cheerful in the world—"for there was always something to vary the sameness of life."

Unfortunately for the due appreciation of snow, we are not all Eskimos, Greenland Dames, Laps, and dogs have neither ungainly reindeer nor wolfish dogs to draw our sledges (if we had them), nor, like the Hyperboreans, flocks of reindeer to slay at will for food, light, and raiment.

Hence the storm which is at present a qualified delight to a great number of people is to a multitude more an unredeemed misery. They neither sleigh, nor sledge, nor snowball. Their associations connect Christmas with the old-fashioned cold, and the lack of food which is the oldest of their wants.

To them a fall of snow means neither sociality nor a break in the continuity of a smooth-going life; it implies only a sudden scarcity of employment, dear provisions, an empty larder, the soup kitchen, the Dorcas Society, or the workhouse.

Even in the best of weather and the most prosperous of seasons these poor people are verging on want, and are rarely troubled with a superfluity of clothing or a surplus house accommodation. Such a storm as that which has now visited us will throw them out of work, and compel the homeless to seek the cold shelter which the State ordains for such as they.

There are three other classes for whom "a fine old-fashioned" December can bring but indifferent joy. These are the very old, the very young, and the invalid.

Aged people and young children are like tender plants; carefully nurtured, the latter may survive to maturity, and the former may reach beyond the allotted span of ordinary life.

Yet the moment they are exposed to a cold snap their sensitive frames feel it, and the length of our obituary columns is visibly swelled.

The invalid never finds the English climate much to his mind, and he dreads the approach of winter. The wealthy may escape to warmer climates, and there change their sky and escape the chill blast and whitened mires which Kingsley so loved and sung. In a few hours the consumptive may be in a region where there is sunshine while our skies are black and cold, or in the course of a few days he may voyage to a land where there is neither hail, nor rain, nor any snow.

Already hundreds of these fortunate ones have escaped into self-exile. At Madreia, in the Hesperides, on the shores of the Riviera, amid the orange groves of Tangier they live a new life.

There it is needless uttering the meteorological conventionality about the day being fine, for the sky is always blue. Yet never can the shivering Britons sigh more ardently for summer than do their exasperated countrymen for the chilly blasts, the ice-covered lakes, and the whitened fields of the isles of winter.

The languid life of the snowless land is to an Englishman tiresome and enervating; for if he lives for a season to eat the Lotus, he longs, also, for time when he will shiver under a sky as inhospitable as that which drives the Russian to his furs.

The storm threatens to continue, and if hard weather sets in, we may experience something of the doubtful pleasure implied by an "old-fashioned Christmas."

However, such is the fickleness of the English climate, that before another day elapses the misery of a thaw may be upon us, with all the slush, damp feet, coughs, colds, and pulmonary wretchedness that follow in its train.

This changeableness of the weather is one of the principal reasons why we find either much heat or unusual cold so trying.

In this country we are not prepared for either. Every summer we have a few extremely hot days, and occasionally a week characterised by a sun as torrid as that of Calcutta, though owing to the comparative dryness of the air, not quite so exhausting. Yet we make no preparation for it, hoping that it is only an exception to the rule that our Julys and Augusts should be temperate when compared with the summers of equatorial regions.

Again, as was the case in January, 1881, the entire country is swaddled up in snow almost as thick as that which covers Canada during the winter months, and we shiver under a sky as inhospitable as that which drives the Russian to his furs.

But both the hot July and the cold January come upon us, and find us without adequate protection or defence. Our houses are fitted for average weather, our clothes for average seasons, and our municipal arrangements, framed with no such contingency as a snowstorm in view, break down completely under the extra pressure put upon them.

The streets are impassable, the cabs, omnibuses, and tramway cars are stopped, and London is saved the horrors of a blockade solely owing to the fact that the Railway Companies are better able to rout the Snow King, before whom Common Council and Common Carrier alike succumb.

Winter, however, finds the Further North not only prepared for it, but ready to welcome its advent as a happy relief from sultry days, rutty roads, and the plague of mosquitoes.

It is terrible to imagine what would be the sanitary condition of a score of Russian villages were they never visited by a fall of snow.

All the refuse of the household and the slaughterhouse is tossed outside the doors and permitted to fester where it falls, until the "Kjokken modding" assumes proportions which would give scientific nightmare to any sound hygienist.

Fortunately, however, just as the pile is beginning to breed typhoid and the other ills that dirt is heir to, the snow arrives and Nature's antiseptic covers every thing with a mantle through which zymotic germs can never penetrate.

In a few months more the thaw comes, and the rivers of melting slush cover the over-ground, carrying with them the foul refuse heaps, so that by May or June the moults may begin his easy-going domestic economy in the old routine.

Russia is still a land of few railways, and of roads which can only be soled by courtesy. Yet the first fall of snow converts the worst forest track over which a tarantass ever stumbled, into a surface as smooth as the Nevsky Prospect.

The rude carriage which makes "travel the fool's paradise" is dismounted, and for the next five months runs on the noiseless sleds.

Towns which only communicate by means of pack-horses are now busy exchanging courtesies and commodities over the snow, and the weary way from Tobolsk to the Cis-Ouralic wastes is alive with streams of sledges passing and repassing, despite the short days and the iron sky.

Social intercourse is renewed in the country, and the gay season begins.

The snow, therefore, which in the South severs mankind, unites them in the North, and, instead of dislocating the fabric of Society, binds it together more firmly than before.

It is, in the same, in a greater or less degree, in Canada, in the Western and New England States, in Denmark, in Sweden, in Norway, and even in Northern Germany and Poland.

In the still further North, in Greenland and Labrador, and among the lonely fur-trading forts that dot the country still lovingly known as Rupert's Land, the winter is never dreaded, though it is just possible that, like other genial visitors, it grows painfully monotonous before the June sun dissipates the last of the snow, which lingers in the shady places along the bleak rocks where the damage done will be very considerable.

FIRES IN THEATRES.

The destruction of the Alhambra Theatre by fire is an event which should have strengthened the hands of the Ministry of Works and of the Lord Chamberlain in insisting upon the provision of ample means of egress from all places of public entertainment. As in so many other instances in London, the fire did not break out instances long after the departure of the audience; so that the only lives imperilled were those of the firemen who were engaged in endeavouring to subdue the flames, and of whom five were slightly, and two very seriously injured. It is manifest, however, that a continuance of such good fortune as this is not to be reckoned upon, for the causes of accidental burning must be more active during theatrical performances than after their termination; and when we consider that only a few minutes elapsed between the discovery of the fire and its complete mastery of the building, we cannot but perceive that so short a time would have given no possibility of safe exit to a large and excited audience. This rapidity of combustion must, almost of necessity, occur in all theatres which are not divided into practically separate parts by fire-proof partitions; inasmuch as the dryness produced by the heat of the gas habitually consumed, and the highly inflammable nature of the scenes, properties, and decorations, provide the most favourable possible circumstances for the promotion of active combustion.

The value of Captain Shaw's recommendation that theatres should be thus divided is well illustrated by the fact that the painting-room at the Alhambra is reported to have escaped in consequence of its being provided with iron folding-doors, which shut out the flames. In other parts, so rapid was their ascendancy that the head fireman on duty, after a minute or two spent in the adjustment of hydrants, had difficulty in conveying his wife and child out of the building; and if the fire had commenced a few hours earlier, there can be no doubt that it would have occasioned a loss of life parallel to that at the Ring Theatre of Vienna, the theatre at Nice, or at the Brooklyn Theatre, New York. About the cause of the outbreak it is not probable that any certainly will ever be known. A theory of Bellealle was destroyed by the ignited wad of a pistol which had been fired upon the stage, and which lodged unseen beneath some decorations, where it smouldered for some time before bursting into flame. In the case of the Alhambra the fire was first discovered in the auditorium, in the dress-circle, or in the balcony, the latter may survive to maturity, and the former may reach beyond the allotted span of ordinary life. Yet the moment they are exposed to a cold snap their sensitive frames feel it, and the length of our obituary columns is visibly swelled. The invalid never finds the English climate much to his mind, and he dreads the approach of winter. The wealthy may escape to warmer climates, and there change their sky and escape the chill blast and whitened mires which Kingsley so loved and sung. In a few hours the consumptive may be in a region where there is sunshine while our skies are black and cold, or in the course of a few days he may voyage to a land where there is neither hail, nor rain, nor any snow.

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In a few months more the thaw comes, and the rivers of melting slush cover the over-ground, carrying with them the foul refuse heaps, so that by May or June the moults may begin his easy-going domestic economy in the old routine.

Russia is still a land of few railways, and of roads which can only be soled by courtesy.

Yet the first fall of snow converts the worst forest track over which a tarantass ever stumbled, into a surface as smooth as the Nevsky Prospect.

The rude carriage which makes "travel the fool's paradise" is dismounted, and for the next five months runs on the noiseless sleds.

Towns which only communicate by means of pack-horses are now busy exchanging courtesies and commodities over the snow, and the weary way from Tobolsk to the Cis-Ouralic wastes is alive with streams of sledges passing and repassing, despite the short days and the iron sky.

Social intercourse is renewed in the country, and the gay season begins.

The snow, therefore, which in the South severs mankind, unites them in the North, and, instead of dislocating the fabric of Society, binds it together more firmly than before.

It is, in the same, in a greater or less degree, in Canada, in the Western and New England States, in Denmark, in Sweden, in Norway, and even in Northern Germany and Poland.

In the still further North, in Greenland and Labrador, and among the lonely fur-trading forts that dot the country still lovingly known as Rupert's Land, the winter is never dreaded, though it is just possible that, like other genial visitors, it grows painfully monotonous before the June sun dissipates the last of the snow, which lingers in the shady places along the bleak rocks where the damage done will be very considerable.

THE HEALTH OF MR. FAWCETT.

The British Medical Journal says:—Mr. Fawcett's serious illness presents several points of much interest to the medical profession. It is an instance of the rare co-existence of diphtheria and typhoid fever, which Dr. Murchison, in his large experience, appears to have met with only once, and which is only occasionally mentioned by other authors, chiefly foreign, who lay much stress on the gravity of the complication. Mr. Fawcett first fell ill on November 23, with general malaise, feverishness, and sore throat. The throat was red and glistening, and four days subsequently, true diphtheritic patches were found on the uvula and the soft tonsil, afterwards extending to the roof of the mouth. There was no enlargement of the cervical glands. Under appropriate treatment the patches on the throat became loose, and separated on December 2. Since that date the diphtheritic symptoms have not been urgent, although the exudation reappeared for a few days, and even still the throat shows traces of the disease. It is worthy of note that there was also some coryza and a slight enlargement of the spleen, the rash on the skin, the enlargement of the spleen, the congestion of the lungs, and the abdominal symptoms—have

been typical. Other important systems, characteristic of typhoid fever, have also been present. Thus the temperature, which has varied from 102° to 103°, has not shown the usual temperature curve of typhoid fever. Instead of the evening rise and morning fall of temperature, typical of typhoid fever, the thermometer has, on several occasions been stationary the whole twenty-four hours, and on others has risen in the morning and fallen in the evening. The pulse has never risen above 104, and the signs of nervous disturbance have been excessive, and out of proportion to the vascular excitement. Roughly speaking, then, for the first ten days, the diphtheria was the dominant disease, and subsequently the signs of enteric fever have prevailed, although many of the usual signs of both diseases have been either modified or altogether absent. We confine ourselves to this short general outline of Mr. Fawcett's case, which is most instructive, quite apart from the personality of the distinguished patient. His condition must necessarily continue to cause anxiety for some time; but we are glad to announce that, up to the hour of going to press, the symptoms were encouraging.

THE SNOW-STORMS.

RAILWAYS BLOCKED.

Reports received from the north state that the snow-storm continues with great severity. Traffic on the roads is suspended in many places, trains are delayed in some cases, and in others altogether stopped. The Telegraph Department of the General Post Office states that there is considerable delay in transmitting messages to and from the north of England generally, to Scotland and Ireland. Snow began to fall in London soon after eleven o'clock on Thursday morning; but in the city it melted as it fell. There has been a very heavy fall of snow in Dartmoor and South Devon this morning. On the moors snow is nearly two feet deep. In Yorkshire snow fell almost incessantly on Wednesday, and was drifted to a depth of five feet. The high wind as completely to stop traffic in many of the more exposed districts. The railway service over the North-Eastern line is interrupted at several points. No train has reached Barnsley from Sheffield or Manchester since Wednesday night, and one train has succeeded in getting through from Penistone. On the Manchester and Sheffield line several trains have been snowed up all night. A train which left Manchester at five o'clock yesterday night, reached Sheffield at half-past ten on Thursday morning. At half-past ten on Wednesday night, a train which had been snowed up for two days, was able to move again, and reached Darlington at half-past ten on Thursday morning. The snow had been completely removed from the line, and the train was able to move again. The following telegrams were published in London on Friday morning:—

ACCINGSTON.—Some Yorkshire trains due at Accingston on 10.30 arrived at 1 o'clock yesterday. Three goods wagons left the metal at Accingston, Burnley, and stopped the traffic entirely on one line. The railway tunnel at Buxton was blocked.

BARNSLEY.—Last night the members of the Barnsley Salvation Army narrowly escaped a shocking end, owing to the sudden collapse of their barracks, which six or seven years ago were constructed on a large skating rink, capable of accommodating four thousand persons. The building was about 200 feet long, 50 feet wide, and was built with scanty brick walls and a large half-circular zinc roof, without pillars inside. The snow was very deep, and the roof collapsed just a crownpiece.

In the seventeenth century there were several great snowstorms recorded in the years 1812, 1814, 1836. The most violent of these occurred on the 24th and 25th of December, 1836. After it had been snowing heavily for two days a great gale sprang up, and caused drifts of 20, 30, and even

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LONDON, DECEMBER 9—10, 1882.

FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

Either the French newspapers misrepresent popular opinion on the other side of the Channel when they discuss the Egyptian question, and, what is more, are almost without exception at variance with the Government, or we are likely to come to loggerheads with France in the Nile Valley. War we do not mean; though it is becoming more and more evident that if our allies were not hampered in their relations with other Powers we should find the words *caseris beli* pretty often just now in French despatches as well as in French newspapers. Indeed, that very important journal the *République Francaise* goes as near to the meaning of war as can be done without running some risk of the ridiculous. The editor of M. Gambetta's paper says:—“We shall not go to war with England because of her seeking to appropriate the share of influence in Egypt which belongs to us; but we shall endeavour to preserve it by what may seem the fittest means. There can no longer, therefore, be any question of an Anglo-French understanding. The British Government deems itself empowered to pursue a purely selfish and personal policy, to the detriment of French interests. We shall use the liberty given us for the purpose of safeguarding them, to the best of our power.” The spirit here displayed is also seen in such journals as the *Temps* and the *Débats*. What we are to clearly understand is that to talk of compensations is to talk in vain. If France seeks extension of empire and trade in Tunis, in Madagascari in Tong-king, and elsewhere, she does so by virtue of independent right, which it is not for England to interfere with under any circumstances. The rights of France in Egypt stand apart; and though she may be compelled to submit for the moment to being robbed of them, they will still remain hers, and there must be an end to all pretence of an Anglo-French alliance till they are surrendered. This is to state the claims and the menaces of the French in the least exaggerated form; and what we are inclined to say about them is, that the better course would be to lose as little time as possible in rejecting the one explicitly, and in showing off-hand that we are not intimidated by the other. For ourselves, we feel all the more free to recommend that line of conduct because we have always maintained that the French have a perfect right to gain for themselves, if they can do so without paying too high a price for it, not only an equal share of authority with England in the Nile Valley but sole control. But it is not the less our business to prevent their doing either; and, besides, success in the contest means a vast deal more for us than it could possibly mean for the French. Further, our allies take false ground when they pretend that we either have robb'd them or propose to rob them of their rights and interests in Egypt. The *condominium*, when it was established, was never meant to give to France a share in that political preponderance over the affairs of Egypt which all Europe, including France, has acknowledged to be of the highest importance for the safety of the British Empire; and if this same *condominium* were to be superseded to-morrow by a British protectorate, all that the Dual Control was intended to secure to France would be yet more strongly safeguarded than ever. It was never pretended till now, and has never been acknowledged at all; that the French had need of protection in Egypt for any but their financial interests. No doubt those interests are very great (but so are those of Italy, for that matter); and it was because they were so great, and because of a desire to conciliate the French as closely as possible, that they were admitted with equal authority to a Dual Control from which all political questions were excluded. And they know full well that if Egypt were placed formally as well as in fact under the Government of England those interests would not only be as safe as ever but greatly enhanced. To admit the claims now advanced by France would be fatal. —*St. James's Gazette.*

THE ARCHBISHOPRIC OF CANTERBURY.

The *Spectator* says:—We should see with pleasure a further deviation from the *canonization* precedent in the elevation of the Dean of St. Paul's to the Primacy. We say this, not because we ourselves concur in the special theological opinions of the Dean—we suspect we should agree better in those of the Primate we have just lost—but because we doubt whether there be among the bishops of the present day one at once so thoroughly courageous, so thoroughly independent, so full of the profound belief that England may be Christianised, and of the determination to do all in his power to Christianise it, and therefore able to estimate the full strength of the world's views, as Dean Church. His great reserve, his modesty, and even shyness, far from being disadvantageous, would, we are persuaded, when combined with a sense of duty and a glowing courage like his, be positive advantages to an Archbishop. Nothing great has ever been done without the fervour of a musing mind, and such a mind is the Dean of St. Paul's. If the Church of England is to do great things in the coming times of which the late Archbishop speaks as times of great change both in Church and State, it is a mind somewhat similar to that of St. Paul's, which may best be trusted to lead the way.

The *Economist* says:—Our principal care about his successor is that, whenever he is, and to whatever party he belongs, he should possess, like Dr. Tait, the quality of statesmanship. He is, in fact, perpetual chairman of that committee of the Church which exercises the power most nearly like that of governing. It is essential, therefore, that he should be a statesman; and this was the special character of Dr. Tait. An Archbishop of Canterbury who was a strong partisan would first dissolve the Church into separate dioceses, each bishop taking his own way, and then render his party so late and intemperate that the other one might secede. An impracticable Archbishop, again, might irritate the statesmen, and make them favourable to disestablishment, while a weak one would induce them to go on their course irrespective of

the church's opinion. It is a cool-headed, clear-thinking statesman, rather than a great ecclesiastic, who is required, and if the Premier can find no one on the Bench—which we by no means affirm—he should follow old precedents, and venture to look lower down.

EGYPT: A SUGGESTION. The *Times* says:—The Primate must have some dignity of person, expression, and carriage, though kindness and urbanity may go far to make up for some little shortcoming in this matter. He must have had some experience in the management of men. He must have had some professional experience, for he has to govern bishops, and should, therefore, have learnt to see questions from their point of view, and to understand their difficulties. By the same rule he ought to have discharged for some time the duties of a parish priest, or to have become familiar with those duties in the lives of those about him. He ought to have the manners and the conversational powers of the best society, for he has to hold his ground, and what may be called the Church's ground, among the greatest, the ablest, and the most highly educated in the land. He ought not to be behindhand in the requirements of the age, and should be able to contribute his quota to any discussion. He is bound to be enough of a lawyer to conduct safely as much of his old ecclesiastical jurisdiction as the Legislature has left in his hands, and to be a match for those of the clergy who make this their business, or their amusement. He has to be a scholar, if possible of the ripe old sort, and enough of a theologian to inspire respect for his teaching, and for his personal authority.

THE LIBERAL VICTORY AT LIVERPOOL.

The *Times* says:—Broadly regarded, there cannot be a doubt that the result of the Liverpool election is a signal victory for the Ministerial party. The Government has largely recovered its popularity in Egypt stand apart; and though she may be compelled to submit for the moment to being robbed of them, they will still remain hers, and there must be an end to all pretence of an Anglo-French alliance till they are surrendered. This is to state the claims and the menaces of the French in the least exaggerated form; and what we are inclined to say about them is, that the better course would be to lose as little time as possible in rejecting the one explicitly, and in showing off-hand that we are not intimidated by the other. For ourselves, we feel all the more free to recommend that line of conduct because we have always maintained that the French have a perfect right to gain for themselves, if they can do so without paying too high a price for it, not only an equal share of authority with England in the Nile Valley but sole control. But it is not the less our business to prevent their doing either; and, besides, success in the contest means a vast deal more for us than it could possibly mean for the French. Further, our allies take false ground when they pretend that we either have robb'd them or propose to rob them of their rights and interests in Egypt. The *condominium*, when it was established, was never meant to give to France a share in that political preponderance over the affairs of Egypt which all Europe, including France, has acknowledged to be of the highest importance for the safety of the British Empire; and if this same *condominium* were to be superseded to-morrow by a British protectorate, all that the Dual Control was intended to secure to France would be yet more strongly safeguarded than ever. It was never pretended till now, and has never been acknowledged at all; that the French had need of protection in Egypt for any but their financial interests. No doubt those interests are very great (but so are those of Italy, for that matter); and it was because they were so great, and because of a desire to conciliate the French as closely as possible, that they were admitted with equal authority to a Dual Control from which all political questions were excluded. And they know full well that if Egypt were placed formally as well as in fact under the Government of England those interests would not only be as safe as ever but greatly enhanced. To admit the claims now advanced by France would be fatal. —*St. James's Gazette.*

THE BETTER SOCIALISTS OF THE CONTINENT.

M. Louis Blanc, remarks the *Spectator*, was an able, though limited man, who wrote history after a brilliant, pictorial fashion, and who had sympathies wide enough to comprehend a people so little like himself as the English; but it is not as a *littérateur* that his personality possesses interest:—

He was, perhaps, the best representative of a class of men, numerous on the Continent, though nearly unknown here, who give political vitality to the set of half-formed ideas described and condemned in England as “Socialism.” To most Englishmen, the word “Socialist” only describes a class of intending insurgents, mostly pale, thin men, with beards, who regard the arrangements of society with a mixture of scorn and hate; who hold dignitaries to be enemies of mankind, and, merely on account of the dignities, worthy of death; and who will risk their lives to endure what exists; or the Sultan's nominal sovereignty—would remain unimpaired, to await, like his “right” in Cyprus, that final moment when, if history may be trusted, his dynasty will obey the law of its being, and perish, as it rose, amidst the flames of Constantinople.

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The Khedive, though with a feeling of personal reverence, and after pressing M. Riaz Pacha to withdraw his resignation, has finally been induced to accept it. But Riaz is not yet allowed. He is still busily intriguing, with the help of Borelli Bey, who is now an official, if not an official, exponent of French ideas, if they can be called such. No man ever seemed so great as Louis Blanc, unless it were Bonni, the Russian Revolutionary who died at Mantova, and who would have swept Russia with fire rather than endure what exists; or Pachal Grousset, the leader of the Commune. Among men of this type he was one of the very best. We believe that such men—and there are many of them—are exercising a great influence on the Continent and in America, and that it is not wholly evil. They do, no doubt, supply resources in the shape of converts to the Anarchists, who fancy that because fire is the strongest of the elements, they can use fire to build with; but they do also much better work. They do wake up society to the sense that it owes a duty to man, and not merely to respectable men paying rates and taxes; they do rouse the rulers to perceive that there are objects which must be secured other than external order; if European Society is to continue; and they do inspire the toiling masses with the belief that in combination of some kind must be the solution of the problem for them—which, if either Christianity or the Social System have any truth at all in it, must be true somehow.

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No. 21,046.—FOUNDED 1814

DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM GALIGNANI.

It is with the deepest sorrow that we announce to our friends and readers the death of Mr. William Galignani, which took place yesterday evening at his residence, 82, Faubourg St. Honoré. The deceased gentleman, who was in the 55th year of his age, had long been an invalid, but notwithstanding his infirmities he remained in the full enjoyment of his intellectual faculties to the last, and with them retained the kindly and genial qualities of heart which had so thoroughly endeared him to all who had in any way been brought into contact with him. Mr. William Galignani was the younger of the two brothers through whose intelligent and indefatigable exertions the *Messenger* steadily extended its influence for upwards of half a century. Confining ourselves, for the moment, to this brief express on our sense of bereavement at his departure we propose, in our next issue, to review his active and highly honourable career, a career in which he distinguished himself by many signal deeds of charity, as well as by those "little, unremembered acts of kindness and of love," which formed one of the most pleasing features of his character. Our columns will, at the same time, contain an announcement, for the benefit of his numerous friends, of the date and hour of his funeral.

that when the Lords threw out the Reform Bill Mr. Stanley, as he then was, declared that, if necessary, coronets must be clapped upon a company of his Majesty's Foot Guards. Be that as it may, the early part of the late Lord Derby's brilliant and chequered career was spent as a vehement and impetuous Whig, and it was not until what appeared to him sacrilegious hands were laid upon that truly remarkable sanctuary, the Irish Church, that he began to reconsider his position. The Stanleys were a Whig family, and the present head of the house has but returned, so far as he has ever left them, to the principles of progress which his father abandoned. The Liberal party may look back without dissatisfaction to the history of England for the last fifty years. It has no cause to be ashamed of its share in those changes which the general assent of all parties has stamped as beneficial. But it cannot afford to stand still. The increasing wants of a progressive community are not to be met by platitudes about the dangers of over-legislation, or by merely departmental reforms. The country expects a Government of which Mr. Gladstone is the head to take up and settle without further delay the questions which from various causes have been allowed to fall into arrear. In schemes for the better management of London and the more satisfactory administration of county finance, Lord Derby's aid will be most valuable. Sir William Harcourt and Mr. Dodson were prepared last session to introduce measures on these two subjects. But both questions, more especially that which concerns the metropolis, are full of difficulties which may at any time be discovered and removed.—*Daily News*.

ENGLAND, FRANCE, AND GERMANY.

In an article suggested by another in the *North German Gazette*, the substance of which has appeared among our telegrams, the *Standard* says:—"A rupture between England and France" we are told, "would certainly have a powerful reactionary effect, and an accord is, therefore, desirable in the interests of peace." Prince Bismarck has for some years proved the sincerity of his attachment to peace, which will preserve at all costs save that of involving Germany in loss of credit in trying to prevent its infliction. A rupture between England and France would so unsettle the world that it is impossible for any one to estimate the limit of the mischief that would ensue. For this reason—in other words, because a downright quarrel between France and England might end by being embarrassing, and possibly perilous, to Germany—Prince Bismarck would fain see such a contingency averted. But there would be greater danger to Germany still, as the object recently expounded by M. Bismarck to be attained, and an alliance to be formed between the two countries, "a compact, in fact, with active objects in view." Nor does our German instructor hesitate to put his finger upon the precise contingency that would constitute the new peril. Were England and France actively allied, Russia would at once desist from courting the good graces of Germany and Austria, and would join the Western Powers that humbled her more than a quarter of a century ago. This is described as "a result at one time indicated by the tendency of British policy." These words evidently refer to Mr. Gladstone's denunciations of Austria-Hungary, but though Mr. Gladstone is not likely to confess the fact, it is certain that he has learnt a good many things regarding Foreign Policy during his present tenure of office. He has become conscious of his powerlessness to break the strong link that binds the two German Powers, and of his inability to thwart their policy, without setting the world in a blaze. He knows, of course, that both France and Russia have old scores to pay off against Germany, and that they would try their best at the operation, if they could drag England into the adventure. France would not be satisfied with the co-operation of Russia, and Russia would not be content with merely the co-operation of France. But each would be prepared for concerted action with the other if England only were with them. This is why, though Germany wishes to see a fairly good understanding exist between England and France, it would dread an active alliance between the two. Moreover, were England, France, and Russia arrayed on one side, and Germany and Austria on the other, Italy would be compelled to join the first combination, seeing that England and France, acting together, could inflict upon her a deadly blow. This may seem a remote contingency, and so it always was; but it has been made more real note through recent events in Egypt, and to that extent Prince Bismarck's sagacity has enjoyed another triumph. His object evidently is to maintain the defensive alliance struck between Germany and Austria, and to break between Germany and France, and to prevent any other two or more Powers forming an alliance at all. A statesman of such capacity or weaker nerves would have effected this end by accepting the advances of Russia and Italy, each of which has sought to be admitted to the Austro-German Compact. But Prince Bismarck, with perfect coolness, practically rejects their approaches, while taking care that they shall find fast friends nowhere else. He is well aware that Russia would prefer to turn against Germany, if it had the chance, and that Italy would shape her conduct, at a crisis, by what seemed to her the necessities of the moment. Those are not the qualifications which the Prince requires in an ally. He is much too thorough and straightforward for such doubtful friendships; and he is satisfied to render powerless those of whom he knows he cannot make sincere allies. His attitude towards England is different again. However inconsistent Mr. Gladstone may have been in his Foreign Policy, he is not double-dealing or tortuous. He has had to adopt the policy of Lord Beaconsfield and Lord Salisbury in regard to other Powers, and this fact is no doubt a reflection upon his previous judgment and his previous conduct. But, now that he has virtually avowed his error, the Government of which he is the head is not waiting, like Russia, for an opportunity to injure Germany. Therefore, Prince Bismarck regards England with tolerable respect and satisfaction; and the power he respects he will always treat well. Accordingly, he passively

countenances our action in Egypt; and it is a significant circumstance that Italian newspapers are beginning to discover that it is not desirable for the differences between England and France to become embittered, and that if there is to be the supremacy of one Power in Egypt, that Power had better be England. We can hardly doubt that this little touch of sub-Alpine wisdom came originally from the other side of the mountains. All that remains is for our nearest neighbours to grasp the situation in a frank and fearless temper, and to recognise that the current events, to which they have so largely contributed, has rendered it inevitable that England should take upon itself exclusively the delivery of Egypt from its bondage to confusion and impotency, and should protect it against a repetition of costly and fruitless insurrections.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

WINDSOR CASTLE, SUNDAY.

The Queen drove out yesterday afternoon, attended by Lady Abergromby and the Hon. Evelyn Paget, The Duke and Duchess of Albermarle, attended by Lady Knightley, left Windsor at 4.40 p.m., for Claremont. Princess Beatrice, attended by the Hon. Lady Biddulph, Miss Bauer, and Captain F. L. Edwards, C.B., went to London yesterday forenoon and visited the Belgrave Hospital for Children, of which her Royal Highness is patroness. The Princess was received by Captain W. J. St. Pollock and the Rev. G. H. Wilkes, the honorary secretaries; the managing committee, Miss Munro, the lady superintendent; and the medical staff. After being shown over the hospital, her Royal Highness opened and named a new ward, which has been recently constructed, the "Princess Beatrice" ward. In the afternoon the Princess was present at the Royal Albert Hall to hear "The Redemption" by Gounod, and returned to Windsor in the evening. The Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein dined with the Queen and the Royal Family. Lieutenant-Colonel the Viscount de Vesey, Guards, and the Viscountess de Vesey, and the Rev. Canon Boyd Carpenter had the honour of being included in her Majesty's dinner party. The Queen and Princess Beatrice attended Divine service this morning in the private chapel. The Rev. W. Boyd Carpenter, canon of St. George's, Windsor, and Honorary Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen, preached the sermon.

It was understood that there was only one dissenting voter. The court adjourned.

On Saturday the Provost of Trinity College, Dublin, in the presence of the fellows and students, presented a silver salver and spirit-jars, who have tried this case will not be required to answer to their names on Monday. Mr. Murphy: Certainly not; your presence will not be required. His Lordship: Not until this present trial is over. The prisoner was then removed.

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Galignani's Messenger.

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PARIS: PRICE 40 CENTIMES
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THE GALIGNANI.

With Mr. William Galignani, whose death we mourn, disappears the last member of a dynasty powerful only for good, the last bearer of a name that has become a household word wherever the English language is spoken or understood. There is scarcely one English, Irish, or Scotch author of fiction or writer of reminiscences, who does not mention Galignani in some one of his productions. Macready, Thackeray, Bulwer, Trollope, Lever, and many more, have spread the name far and wide throughout the world. "We met at Galignani's," "I went down to Galignani's," "He looked in at Galignani's," are quite familiar phrases in the literature of the first half of the nineteenth century. This celebrity is owing in the first place to J. Galignani, the father, a man who displayed the highest genius for true journalism on an intelligent and a grand scale, when the *London Times* was not half so big in size as the contemporary *London Echo*, and half a century before a Walter, a Mudford, a Gordon Bennett, or a Levy had been so much as heard of. From 1814 to the present day *Galignani's Messenger*, Galignani's Reading Room, Galignani's Library, were the boon of hours for all English-speaking and many foreign visitors to Paris. For the work so intelligently begun by the elder Galignani was admirably continued by his two worthy sons, Anthony and William. It is nearly a decade since the former left this world full of years, crowned with worldly honours and accompanied by the blessings of hundreds to whom he had been a benefactor. He and his brother, just departed, had entertained at their table all the literary celebrities of England, who had ever called upon them in Paris, which few failed to do, even in the days when author's rights were an unknown quantity in the book-trade of the Continent. The dynasty of the Galignanis has now disappeared; but the power they laid the foundation of, in creating the *Messenger* on the broad, generous, and liberal line of journalism as now understood, more than half a century after the idea first occurred to them, a power used only for good, still persists, and will flourish as long as there are to be found lovers of healthy, impartial, honest, and interesting news paper matter.

With regard to Mr. William Galignani personally, there are few who will be more truly mourned; for all who knew him honoured him for the simple dignity of his life. By his integrity and sound judgment in business; by the absolute confidence in his personal character, which he commanded throughout life, and favoured by prevailing good fortune, he rose from modest beginnings to great wealth and personal influence. He became an Officer of the order of the Legion of Honour, and was for many years the mayor of Etiolles, in the department of Seine-et-Oise. The moderation with which he enjoyed his wealth and influence, and the liberality with which he dispensed it, made his life a great example. He left wealth as the means of personal independence with regard to himself; it is true, but more for the power it gave him of doing good to others. His benefactions, and those of his brother, were very considerable both in number and amount. Every meritorious appeal, every incorporated charity, every association for the relief of want, were the objects of his liberality. Many who read these lines will be able to bear witness to their truth. We believe that everyday of his life was a blessing to some one, for his great riches flowed like a fountain, distributing, in a hundred channels, comfort and relief to the unfortunate. In connection with his brother he erected in Paris a hospital for the benefit of English and Americans. Hundreds of these, strangers in this great city, friendless and despairing, have experienced the blessings provided for them by these generous brothers. The buildings and grounds of that hospital were handed over, in 1876, to the Association of the Mission Home for the protection of American and English young women in Paris, and converted into a home for English and American orphans in Paris. At Corbeil he and his brother founded and endowed a hospital, with spacious grounds, an orphanage and a school for poor girls, at a cost of nearly £40,000. Mr. William Galignani did not, as too many rich men do, make the poor wait for his death, but used the present hour to do good, and to show how a generous man may scatter blessings in his path through life. Thousands there are whom he never knew, relieved by his kindness, who will bless his memory, and recall his name with gratitude and affectionate respect. The little orphans will gather round the grave of their benefactor, and the poor will miss the friendly hand. Friends will mourn for the good and kindly man, who lived an earnest and useful life, and who found his greatest happiness in gentle acts of sympathy and kindness. Dead, he yet speaketh by the example of his honourable life. For many years before his death Mr. William Galignani had retired altogether from business.

The funeral of Mr. William Galignani will take place at the Church of the Madeleine on Thursday, at noon. Galignani's establishment will be closed on Thursday.

Great Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 11-12, 1882.

THE CABINET CHANGES.

Mr. Gladstone's visit to Windsor on Monday may safely be regarded as having some connection with the impending changes in the Cabinet, of which a good deal has lately been heard. The entire scheme of Ministerial reconstruction is not yet decided upon; but there is reason to believe that when it is known it will be found to proceed upon the following lines:—Lord Derby will enter the Cabinet as Secretary of State for India, Lord Hartington will replace Mr. Childers at the War Office, and Mr. Childers will relieve Mr. Gladstone of his responsibilities as Chancellor of the Exchequer. It is obvious that one of the consequences of this arrangement will be not only to lighten the official labours of the Prime Minister, but also to reduce his Parliamentary duties. As head of one of the great spending departments of the State, over which he has presided before, Lord Hartington will occupy a position of fresh importance in the popular Chamber, and will doubtless discharge more than he does at present of the actual function of Leadership. He has worked hard and successfully at the India Office, and has mastered the details of its routine with great thoroughness. In going to the War Office he will return to a post which he occupied sixteen years ago, but he will do so with the added authority of time and of experience. The accession of Mr. Childers to the Chancellorship of the Exchequer is in accordance with general expectations. A fortnight before the close of the Session the Prime Minister intimated that the post would be delegated to one of his colleagues with as little delay as possible, and it was known, almost beyond a doubt, that this colleague would be the Secretary of State for War. Mr. Childers has charge of the War Office during a period of exceptional strain and anxiety. His attention to his duties has been unremitting, and has perceptibly, though it may be hoped only temporarily, told upon his health. The Chancellorship of the Exchequer, when the Prime Minister and the next claimant to the dignity of Prime Minister, as Lord Hartington unquestionably is, are in the House of Commons, is one of the lightest of Cabinet offices. Mr. Childers will find the introduction of the Budget once a year, and the task of replying to such questions as relate to the Treasury, comparatively light after the burden he has borne during the past nine months in Pall-mall. Mr. Childers, moreover, has the special knowledge which will qualify him for the position, as well as some of the actual experience. As long ago as 1863 it excited some surprise that Mr. Gladstone should not have selected him for the Chancellorship in preference to Mr. Lowe. Mr. Childers is also understood to possess in a special degree the confidence of his Chief; and the relations into which the Prime Minister is thrown with the Chancellor of the Exchequer are necessarily of a special and intimate kind. But of the announcements which we are now enabled to make, it is indisputably the introduction of Lord Derby into the Cabinet as Indian Secretary that is of the greatest importance, and that will excite the greatest interest. Rumour had, indeed, upon several occasions forecast and outstripped the event which has now actually occurred. Ever since Lord Derby crossed over to the Ministerial benches it has been periodically asserted that room would be found for him in Mr. Gladstone's Cabinet. The resignation of the Duke of Argyll, the visit of the Prime Minister to Knowsley, the more recent retirement of Mr. Bright, were each of them the occasions for a repetition of the report in tones of the utmost confidence. What seemed powerful reasons against its fulfilment were, it is true, forthcoming. Lord Derby was the last man in the world to approach much in the domestic policy of the Government, and in point of fact, he had roundly condemned a substantial portion of it. If he supported the Compensation for Disturbance Bill, he forbore to applaud its principle. He had prepared a searching speech against the Land Act, which was not delivered in Parliament, but which subsequently saw the light in the pages of a monthly magazine. In the same way, last summer, Lord Derby scrutinised with severity the Arrears Act; and if his action had been as logical as his remarks were critical, he would have gone into the Opposition lobby. But Lord Derby as a Liberal has displayed the same qualities which distinguished him as a Conservative. He speaks now as he did then with one side, and he votes now as he voted then with the other. It is generally assumed that the acquisition of Lord Derby will be a guarantee of considerably increased strength to the Cabinet. The new Secretary of State for India—has a complete knowledge of the affairs of the Asiatic Empire, and served, in the same capacity as he is now about to do, in the Cabinet of distinguished fame nearly a quarter of a century since. But the value which Mr. Gladstone may realise in his new recruit is not limited by his past knowledge of the India Office. Lord Derby is rightly famous for his clear common sense, and for the power he possesses of turning the dry light of his intellect full upon any subject that presents itself for discussion. This is pre-eminently the attribute which Englishmen admire, and which wins their confidence. Lord Derby is not identified with extreme opinions of any kind; he is rather known persistently to distrust such opinions; and, therefore, those who have apprehensions as to what Mr. Gladstone may do in the future will be bidden to borrow reassurance from the fact that the cautious presence of Lord Derby operates as a restraining force upon the impetuosity of the Premier and some of his associates. How far his accession to Mr. Gladstone will tend to be a source of inherent strength to the Government is a different matter. Lord Derby has never commended himself to the Radicals, who are now represented in the Cabinet, and it remains to be seen whether, if he insists upon asserting himself by a display of the judicial moderation and of the other similar qualities which he is known to possess, his assistance at the Councils of Downing-street will have a strictly harmonising influence.—*Standard*.

THE FOG-DEMON.

Sunday last was a cheerful experience in the history of memorable London fogs. It was not quite so bad, perhaps, as the night of Saturday, January 31, 1880, when the new Haymarket Theatre was opened, and the audience took till daybreak to arrive at the Cromwell-road or Haverstock-hill. Then the fog came on suddenly, and surprised the amusement-loving world. Cabs were floundering on the pavement and omnibuses halting disengaged their dazed and belated passengers. Then men were hired at extravagant prices to guide a horse's head from Charing-cross to Bloomsbury, and exploring parties were hopelessly lost in the Seven Dials. It was on this memorable occasion that an ingenious gentleman, stumbling across a stationary and bewildered policeman, lifted his stick and knocked off the helmet of the inoffensive member of the force. "Come, now," observed the policeman, "what ever did you do that for?" "I want to be taken up," answered the stranger. "Taken up! why, what for?" "Because I know you must take me to the police station, and you ought to know the way, and because there at any rate I shall get a fire and a bed. Take me up, then, or I will report you for neglecting your duty." Nor was Sunday quite as bad as a memorable Christmas Day, when all the calls were stopped and nobody saw anybody, and when the fog, with cruel inconstancy, changed its colour and became ink-black instead of yellow. Still Sunday was bad enough to give the lively foreigner a very disagreeable impression of the London climate in winter. Nobody on awaking in the morning could accurately discover if it were to-day or the day before yesterday. A thick yellow curtain had fallen down before the bedroom window, and impeded every semblance of view that of mysterious district popularly known as "over-the-way." The streets had not the muffled sound which is so familiar to Londoners when snow is on the roadways, but there fell upon the ear ghostly echoes of hollow voices. Lamps and torches glimmered in the gloom, lighting the devout to early service. Fitfully could be heard at intervals the dead report of the fog-signals on the adjacent railroad. Otherwise the London world was still as the grave. The cabmen were surely the most sensible people, for presumably they defied conventionality and kept religiously in bed; anyhow, scarcely a cab was to be seen, and from an early hour the best cabstands were deserted. London on a Sunday is not a cheerful place at the best of times, but the atmosphere of a vault or a catacomb would be positively exhilarating compared to a foggy London Sunday. Miserable, indeed, it must have been for the shopmen and shopgirls in the warehouses and large establishments, who can only get about on Sunday; yet, perhaps, they were, as usual, stumbling across and jostling one another on the usual promenade of Oxford and Regent-streets. It grew denser and more miserable as the evening wore on. The ordinary gas-lamps were powerless to illumine the murky scene, and only at Charing-cross, where the new burners have been substituted, was darkness in any way made visible. The churches were alone true to their duties, and they became more crowded than ever, seeing that they were the only cheerful beacons on London's foggy horizon. Most of the restaurants gave up business as hopeless, and the consequence was that many of the unfortunate people whose landlords refuse to cook on Sunday went dinnerless and supperless to bed. The cabs gradually drew off; the omnibuses went home. All the pleasant little dinner-parties were spoiled, for the guests could not arrive. Even the men were hindered from fulfilling their social obligations by the earnest entreaties of the womenkind, who appear on behalf of their lords and masters to dread a fog even worse than a battle or a burglar. As night fell London looked and felt like a deserted city, it was so lonely, and the home-coming passenger, trusting to instinct and groping his way by the railings, was suddenly startled by the sound of weird and unearthly music that arose from the choking vapour. It was only the Christmas Waits alternating the hymn of "Adeste Fideles" with the melancholy refrain "Love Not." Apparently it is hopeless to seek a cure for fog or even to alleviate the misery and wretchedness they cause. As London becomes larger the fogs become thicker. We are told not to burn so many coal fires; but, on the other hand, it is known that the fogs are occasionally as thick in Paris, where they burn nothing but wood. It is no consolation whatever to be told by some general Mark Tapley that it was glorious this morning at Richmond, or sunny at Hampstead, or the "finest day you ever saw in your life" on Wimbleton. 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THE GALIGNANIS.

With Mr. William Galignani, whose death we mourn, disappears the last member of a dynasty powerful only for good, the last bearer of a name that has become a household word wherever the English language is spoken or understood. There is scarcely one English, Irish, or Scotch author of fiction or writer of reminiscences, who does not mention Galignani's in some one of his productions. Macready, Thackeray, Bulwer, Trollope, Lever, and many more, have spread the name far and wide throughout the world. "We met at Galignani's," "He looked in at Galignani's," are quite familiar phrases in the literature of the first half of the nineteenth century. This celebrity is owing in the first place to J. Galignani, the father, a man who displayed the highest genius for true journalism on an intelligent and a grand scale, when the *London Times* was not half so big in size as the contemporary London *Echo*, and half a century before a Walter, a Mudford, a Gordon Bennett, or a Levy had been so much as heard of. From 1814 to the present day *Galignani's Messenger*, Galignani's Reading Room, Galignani's Library, were the boon of books for all English-speaking and many foreign visitors to Paris. For the work so intelligently begun by the elder Galignani was admirably continued by his two worthy sons, Anthony and William. It is nearly a decade since the former left this world full of years, crowned with worldly honours and accompanied by the blessings of hundreds to whom he had been a benefactor. He and his brother, just departed, had entertained at their table all the literary celebrities of England, who had ever called upon them in Paris, which few failed to do, even in the days when author's rights were an unknown quantity in the book-trade of the Continent. The dynasty of the Galignanis has now disappeared; but the power they laid the foundation of, in creating the *Messenger* on the broad, generous and liberal line of journalism as now understood, more than half a century after the idea first occurred to them, a power used only for good, still persists, and will flourish as long as there are to be found lovers of healthy, impartial, honest, and interesting newspaper matter.

With regard to Mr. William Galignani personally, there are few who will be more truly mourned; for all who knew him honoured him for the simple dignity of his life. By his integrity and sound judgment in business; by the absolute confidence in his personal character, which he commanded through life, and favoured by prevailing good fortune, he rose from modest beginnings to great wealth and personal influence. He became an Officer of the order of the Legion of Honour, and was for very many years the mayor of Etiolles, in the department of Seine-et-Oise. The moderation with which he enjoyed his wealth and influence, and the liberality with which he dispensed it, made his life a great example. He valued wealth as the means of personal independence with regard to himself, it is true, but more for the power it gave him of doing good to others. His benefactions, and those of his brother, were very considerable both in number and amount. Every meritorious appeal, every incorporated charity, every association for the relief of want, were the objects of his liberality. Many who read these lines will be able to bear witness to their truth. We believe that everyday of his life was a blessing to some one, for his great riches flowed like a fountain, distributing, in a hundred channels, comfort and relief to the unfortunate. In connection with his brother, he erected in Paris a hospital for the benefit of English and Americans. Hundreds of these strangers in this great city, friendless and despairing, have experienced the blessings provided for them by these generous brothers. The buildings and grounds of that hospital were handed over, in 1876, to the Association of the Mission Home for the protection of American and English young women in Paris, and converted into a home for English and American orphans in Paris. At Corbeil he and his brother founded and endowed a hospital, with spacious grounds, an orphanage and a school for poor girls, at a cost nearly £10,000. Mr. William Galignani did not, as too many rich men do, make the poor wait for his death, but used the present hour to do good, and to show how a generous man may scatter blessings in his path through life. Thousands there are whom he never knew, relieved by his kindness, who will bless his memory, and recall his name with gratitude and affectionate respect. The little orphans will gather round the grave of their benefactor, and the poor will miss the friendly hand. Friends will mourn for the good and kindly man, who lived an earnest and useful life, and who found his greatest happiness in gentle acts of sympathy and kindness. Dead, he yet speaketh by the example of his honourable life. For many years before his death Mr. William Galignani had retired altogether from business.

The funeral of Mr. William Galignani will take place at the Church of the Madeleine on Thursday, at noon. Galignani's establishment will be closed on Thursday.

Great Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 11-12, 1882.

THE CABINET CHANGES.

Mr. Gladstone's visit to Windsor on Monday may safely be regarded as having some connection with the impending changes in the Cabinet, of which a good deal has lately been heard. The entire scheme of Ministerial reconstruction is not yet decided upon; but there is reason to believe that when it is known it will be found to proceed upon the following lines:—Lord Derby will enter the Cabinet as Secretary of State for India, Lord Hartington will replace Mr. Childers at the War Office, and Mr. Childers will relieve Mr. Gladstone of his responsibilities as Chancellor of the Exchequer. It is obvious that one of the consequences of this arrangement will be not only to lighten the official labours of the Prime Minister, but also to reduce his Parliamentary duties. As head of one of the great spending departments of the State, over which he has presided before, Lord Hartington will occupy a position of fresh importance in the popular Chamber, and will doubtless discharge more than he does at present of the actual function of Leadership. He has worked hard and successfully at the India Office, and has mastered the details of its routine with great thoroughness. In going to the War Office he will return to a post which he occupied sixteen years ago, but he will do so with the added authority of time and of experience. The accession of Mr. Childers to the Chancellory of the Exchequer is in accordance with general expectations. A fortnight before the close of the Session the Prime Minister intimated that the post would be delegated to one of his colleagues with as little delay as possible, and it was known, almost beyond a doubt, that this colleague would be the Secretary of State for War. Mr. Childers has had charge of the War Office during a period of exceptional strain and anxiety. His attention to his duties has been unremitting, and has perceptibly, though it may be hoped only temporarily, told upon his health. The Chancellory of the Exchequer, when the Prime Minister and the next claimant to the dignity of Prime Minister, as Lord Hartington unquestionably are, in the House of Commons, is one of the lightest of Cabinet offices. Mr. Childers will find the introduction of the Budget once a year, and the task of replying to such questions as relate to the Treasury, comparatively light after the burden he has borne during the past nine months in Pall-mall. Mr. Childers, moreover, has the special knowledge which will qualify him for the position, as well as some of the actual experience. As long ago as 1868 it excited some surprise that Mr. Gladstone should not have selected him for the Chancellory in preference to Mr. Lowe. Mr. Childers is also understood to possess in a special degree the confidence of his Chief, and the relations into which the Prime Minister is thrown with the Chancellor of the Exchequer are necessarily of a special and intimate kind. But of the announcements which we are now enabled to make, it is indisputable the introduction of Lord Derby into the Cabinet as Indian Secretary that is of the greatest importance, and that will excite the greatest interest. Rumour had, indeed, upon several occasions forecast and outstripped the event which has now actually occurred. Ever since Lord Derby crossed over to the Ministerial benches it has been periodically asserted that room would speedily be found for him in Mr. Gladstone's Cabinet. The resignation of the Duke of Argyll, the visit of the Prime Minister to Knowsley, the more recent retirement of Mr. Bright, were each of them the occasions for a repetition of the report in tones of the utmost confidence. What seemed powerful resistance against its fulfilment, were, it is true, forthcoming. Lord Derby was the last man in the world to approve much in the domestic policy of the Government, and, in point of fact, he had roundly condemned a substantial portion of it. If he supported the Compensation for Disturbance Bill, he forbore to applaud its principle. He had prepared a searching speech against the Land Act, which was not delivered in Parliament, but which subsequently saw the light in the pages of a monthly magazine. In the same way, last summer, Lord Derby scrutinised with severity the *Arrears Act*; and if his action had been as logical as his remarks were critical, he would have gone into the Opposition lobby. But Lord Derby was the last man in the world to approve much in the domestic policy of the Government, and, in point of fact, he had roundly condemned a substantial portion of it. If he supported the Compensation for Disturbance Bill, he forbore to applaud its principle. 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RENEWED SNOWSTORMS.

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PARIS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1882.

so full of changes and surprises. We are now on the threshold of 1883, when Mr. Gladstone's position will undoubtedly be again changed, perhaps beyond the expectations and conjectures of the moment.—*Times*:

SECULAR EDUCATION IN SWITZERLAND.

The importance of the vote recently arrived at by the Swiss people on what was practically the double issue of Cantonal autonomy against Federal over-centralisation and of educational liberty against compulsory Secularism, ought not to be overlooked by English opponents of Caucus and School Board monopolies. The Radical Party in Switzerland aimed a bold stroke against both the local self-administration and denominational liberty of their countrymen, and although at first appearances were in favour of the Secularist Party, the mass of the Swiss nation, when directly consulted upon the question, returned an overwhelming verdict on behalf of the old institutions of the country. It must be admitted that a certain obscurity has hung over some of the phases of the recent struggle. This obscurity has chiefly arisen from two causes, the technical provision under which the constitutional appeal took place, and the apparent triviality of the point upon which the whole contest in reality turned. To the general public of Europe the announcement that the Swiss Electorate was called to vote upon the "referendum" must have seemed about as intelligible as if some controversy on the "mare liberum" and the "mare clausum" were to be said to have been in progress of discussion at Stockholm or The Hague. In reality the provision regarding the "referendum" secures a right of appeal to the General Electorate of the Swiss Confederation from any enactment of the Federal Assembly, when a petition demanding such appeal has been signed by not less than thirty thousand electors. On the recent occasion the demand for the "referendum" was signed by something like one hundred and thirty thousand electors, and though the irate Radicals submitted the signatures to a strict scrutiny in the hope of finding some ground for invalidating the document, the petition of the Opposition triumphantly withstood the jealous scrutiny. When, accordingly, it became impossible to prevent the appeal to the popular vote, the question at issue was duly submitted, and then it was seen that out of five hundred thousand citizens of the Confederation who came to the polls only one hundred and eighty thousand supported the enactment passed by the Federal Assembly, while no less than three hundred and twenty thousand voted for the rejection of the measure. The defeat of centralising Radicalism was overwhelming and complete. The victory of the partisans of the existing liberty of denominational education was unbroken and decisive. If such a vote had taken place in a country like Germany, where Conservative and aristocratic principles still exert so preponderating an influence upon legislation, the event would still be sufficiently remarkable. In Democratic Switzerland this decision of universal suffrage to maintain inviolate the liberty of religious teaching in the schools of the Cantons, and to maintain the Cantonal schools themselves under the ancient control of the local authorities, instead of handing them over to the authorities of a gigantic school-board system embracing all Switzerland, is a profoundly instructive example of the frequent and growing divergence between what is known as extreme Liberal policy and genuine popular convictions.—*Morning Post*.

SOUTH AFRICA.

The Durban correspondent of the *Times* telegraphed on Tuesday:

Cetyways signed the conditions for the re-settlement of Zululand yesterday, at Government-Cape Town. He expects to leave there early in January, and a man-of-war will convey him to Port Durford direct. This plan is much preferable to that of landing him here. The British Resident with a military escort will receive him, and accompany him to Ulundi, where he will be installed King over that portion of Zululand which is to be restored to his rule. Oban will accord a passive reception; Usibeli is intractable; and John Dunn will probably stand aloof. The Bauliun tribe, and engaged to restore his cattle, the Resident's efforts having conduced greatly to this result. The Usuto party already look forward to a revival of the old killing customs.

There has been more skirmishing near Mapoch's place, and the Boers continue to capture cattle. The caves will be destroyed with dynamite. The Cape Government has sent to the Transvaal two guns and ammunition. Montsia is said to have repudiated the treaty of submission to the Republic. The troops are likely to remain in Natal during the next 12 months, in consequence of the unsettled condition of affairs.

The correspondent of the *Daily News* at Maritzburg wrote on Nov. 20.—A few days ago I telegraphed that the Transvaal Government protested against Mr. Evelyn Ashby's statement to the House of Commons that they had asked for an extension of territory, as false and slanderous, and that they alleged the statement was based on gross misrepresentations by the High Commissioner and the British Resident, evidence of which was to be found in the recently-published blue-book. I have now before me the materials on which that protest is founded, and I have no hesitation in saying that it is justified. Let it, however, be first of all remembered how peculiarly damaging to the Transvaal Government such a statement was at the present moment likely to be. It would give the impression—and possibly was intended to give the impression—to the public that the Boers, in addition to sundry alleged violations of the terms of the Convention, were clamouring for enlarged boundaries, and in general behaving themselves in a manner highly calculated to confirm the forebodings of those who had prophesied that the restoration of independence would prove to be a mistake. What I believe will be shown, on the contrary, is that the only mistake connected with the restoration of independence was the mistake of leaving power in the hands of Colonial Office officials to misrepresent and irritate in every imaginable way the Government which it was their duty rather to help. No will it, I am confident, be less clearly proved that so far from the Transvaal Government having failed in any one respect imposed on them, they have shown an earnestness and an anxiety in their endeavours to meet the views of the Imperial Government which are worthy of the highest praise, and which have only been met by ill temper and even deliberate bad faith.

A BLACK HARE.—A jet black full-grown hare was last week shot by the Hon. General Gage while beating the coverts at Firle, Sussex. Such a specimen is believed to be a rare occurrence.

THE PRINCE OF WALES AT THE CITY OF LONDON SCHOOL.

The new City of London School, on the Thames Embankment, was opened on Tuesday in strict pursuance of the official programme. Spots of the dipping cold and the threat of some kind of winter downfall, large crowds of spectators gathered upon the Embankment, while the lines of the Hon. Artillery Company were drawn up in the centre of the road as a guard of honour. The necessary space was kept clear by the City police, and the people gave them no trouble, being content with gazing at the bearskins and scarlet uniforms of the City soldiers, and at as much of the school interior as they could see. The Prince and Princess of Wales arrived at three o'clock, and were received under the awning erected over the pavement, by the Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs, the Headmaster, Mr. Pearce Morrison (the chairman), and the other members of the School Committee. The military bands played the National Anthem, the guard of honour gave the regulation salute, and the reception was further signalled by hearty cheers from the public, who had previously been loud in their admiration of the black robe and heavy gold braid of Lord Mayor Knight, the striking array of the Sheriffs, and the blue, fur-edged gowns of the wands-bearing Common Benchmen. Inside the entrance the Cripplegate members of the 1st Middlesex Artillery mounted guard upon the grand staircase. This and the grand vestibule were decorated with flowers and evergreens, and throughout the portion of the school visited by the Royal party similar ornaments, with flag accompaniments where possible, were tastefully disposed. The principal features of the building were pointed out to the Prince and Princess by the Chairman of Committee. In the vestibule and entrance-hall excellent samples of the fittings characteristic of the general style were seen in the walnut doors, walls, and ceilings. The panels on the walls of the inner hall bear marble tablets recording the names and gifts of benefactors and the names of distinguished pupils. Captain Doyle, the head of the School, with his heraldic crest, was the full-length figure of John Carpenter, the founder, brought from the superseded school in Milk-street, and on either side are inscriptions recounting his virtues and deeds, together with marble tablets commemorating the scholarships and endowments connected with the school. The stained glass in the windows was also brought from the old school. This staircase, as its name implies, will not be used on ordinary days by the boys.

The Prince and Princess of Wales first inspected the head-master's room and the library, the latter an apartment 45 feet long, 20 feet wide, 16½ feet high; both have deeply-recessed windows, good walnut wood-work, caken floors, and ornamental open fireplaces. In proceeding along the corridor, specimens of the class-rooms were seen. They are practically counterpart of each other, and are planned and fitted for the accommodation of 40 boys each. The dual desks, five rows deep, and with eight boys in a row, are placed in all cases so that the window-light falls from the pupil's left hand. The dadas of the class room are of varnished pitch pine, and the methods of ventilation and heating are the best known to modern science. At the end of the corridor the Royal party passed at the balcony, and looked out upon the playground, where the 600 boys were divided into two and three classes and ladies and gentlemen assembled with the band of the 1st Middlesex Artillery to pass away the time and give a Royal welcome when the troops arrived. The Prince and Princess, however, preferred to go down amongst the boys, and his Royal Highness soon earned their future gratitude, and immense applause on the spot, for obtaining for them an extra week's holiday at Christmas in celebration of the day. The open playground has several five courts. Alderman de Keyser having allowed the blank wall of the Royal Hotel to be utilised for the purpose. Two of the courts are roofed with glass for wet weather, and a coach has been taken to construct the whole of the courts on the Eton and Harrow, and not the Rugby pattern. Part of the basement of the school will be used as a covered playground, and there is a gymnasium, which the Prince and Princess visited, 77 ft. by 35 ft. by 20 ft.

Returning from the playground by the corridor, and preceded by the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and members of the committee, the Royal party ascended the main staircase to the Great Hall on the first floor. The band of the 3d Middlesex Artillery, stationed outside, gave the National Anthem, and the ticket-holders within, 994 in number, rose en masse to welcome the procession, which entered to a fanfare from the Lord Mayor's trumpeters, the National Anthem from the organ, and general applause from the people. The fine proportions of the hall, with its high walnut dado and imposing open roof of the same dark colour (giving it already the appearance of venerable age), were shown to the best advantage now that hammer-hung lights and the covered floor was illuminated with the occupiers of seats. In this hall the school will assemble every morning for prayer; otherwise it will be employed for occasional lectures, examinations, singing classes, and the yearly distribution of prizes. The front of the platform on the eastern end was showily decorated with the flowering poinsettia and other rare plants. Upon the platform were chairs of state for the accommodation of the Royal visitors, the other members of the procession, and a few distinguished visitors, the latter including Miss Alston, who has contributed stained glass at a cost of £700 for the two seven-light windows over the dais. The first item in the ceremony upon the platform was the presentation of a bouquet to the Princess of Wales by Miss Fanny Louisa Morrison, a small fairy in pale blue silk, who added a pretty smile to the floral gift.

The circumstances under which the school had been built were described to the Prince of Wales in an address from the committee, read by the Town Clerk, and by a speech delivered by the Lord Mayor in presenting the document. The facts thus communicated are no doubt familiar to our readers, and they were furnished to all visitors on Tuesday in an elegant little book, designed as a *souvenir* of the opening day. The Lord Mayor's speech informed his Royal Highness of the support given by the Corporation of London to the project in particular and the cause of education in general. He showed that the £100,000 nominally spent in erecting the new school was really but a part of the outlay. They had, for example, purchased the site, consisting of an acre and a half of ground, worth at least £10,000, and this, together with the annual payments, made the total expenditure £300,000. His lordship gave, as only one instance of the interest taken by the City of London in the cause of education. The Prince of Wales, speaking extempore, as has been his habit of late on such occasions, in reply, said:—

My Lord Mayor, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—Before announcing to you that these magnificent buildings are open, I desire to express the gratification it has given to the Princess as well as myself to take part in the proceedings of to-day. Allow me to tender my best thanks for the address I have just received, and for the excellent and lucid statement delivered by the Lord Mayor. After what you have heard with regard to the history and objects of this school, it will not be necessary for me on this occasion to occupy your time in referring to them. Still, you will permit me to express a fervent hope that a school such as this, which has flourished for between forty and fifty years, will continue to maintain its high and useful position. It is very gratifying to think that many of its scholars who have gone up to our Universities have taken high degrees—in classics at

OXFORD, AND IN MATHEMATICS AT CAMBRIDGE.

Your present head-master, Dr. Abbot, took high honours at Cambridge; and last, and not least, the Lord Mayor himself, who was educated here, is I believe, the first City of London schoolboy who has reached the high rank of chief magistrate of the City of London. I must congratulate also the architects who have designed and built the school. I feel convinced, from the little we have already seen of it, that it is most admirably suited for all educational purposes. The site is close to the Thames, where there will be plenty of fresh air, and the building is constructed and furnished promises well for the future comfort of the pupils. Let me again express the hope that, with the blessing of God, this school will continue to flourish and prosper. I now declare the new building

THE GLAMORGANSHIRE COLLEGE.

The first resolution of the Government to propose a grant of £4,000 a year for the establishment of a College in Glamorganshire is creating a great difficulty for the Education Department. The proposal originated with the Departmental Committee which was appointed in August, 1880, to consider the whole question of Intermediate and Higher Education in Wales. That Committee recommended that one new college in addition to that at Aberystwyth should be established, and that it should be in Glamorganshire; and that it should be regarded, for the present at least, as the College for South Wales, while the Aberystwyth College, whether retained where it is or removed to Carmarthen or Bangor, should be the College of North Wales and receive a similar grant. Unfortunately the Committee did not say where in Glamorganshire the new academical institution should be placed, and Lord Spencer and Mr. Mundella may be called on to settle the conflicting claims of the two chief towns of the district, though Mr. Mundella, to avoid this unpleasant suggestion, suggested that arbitrators should be appointed to decide between them. The delay in following out this suggestion is explained. The Committee foresaw the controversy which would arise. "There might be some difficulty," says their report, "as to the rival claims of Cardiff and Swansea to be regarded as the most suitable site." But the Committee add a sentence which indicates at least one ground for the preference of the younger town over its older rival. "Cardiff and the places within reach of it supply within a given area the larger population, while Swansea and its neighbourhood are the seats of more varied industries." As the College is for population rather than for industries, the superior claim seems so far to belong to Cardiff. There is, however, much to be said for both towns, and deputations from each have urged their rival claims on the Vice-President. On the map of South Wales Swansea is the more central, though fewer railways run into it than into Cardiff. The older town, but it has been surpassed in wealth and population by its younger rival. The College, however, is to be south of Cardiff and Monmouthshire, and Cardiff is more central and more easily accessible for the greater portion of the population thus to be accommodated. More than a third of the people of South Wales and Monmouthshire live within a radius of 25 miles of Cardiff. The towns themselves are increasing with great though unequal rapidity. In 1871 the municipal borough of Swansea had 51,702 inhabitants, and that of Cardiff 59,494; while in 1881 Cardiff had risen 13 per cent.—to 85,378, and Swansea 23 per cent.—to 63,539. The Swansea people put forward among their claims the beautiful position of the town, its healthiness as a residence for the professors, and the line site which the corporation offers for the College. Cardiff, on the other hand, gives a site, offers a much larger subscription, and asserts that the College is more needed, and would be more useful in the very midst of its large population and within easy distance of its railway stations, than in the more open spot where Swansea proposes to place it. Swansea offers twenty acres of ground, worth, the Mayor told Mr. Mundella, £1,000 an acre, and subscriptions which at the date of the deputation amounted to £3,000, with some additions, the amount of which has not been named. Cardiff went up to the Vice-President with a completed scheme, and a subscription list of £32,000, which it proposes to raise to £50,000. Both towns agreed that the College must be in one of them, and each would prefer that it should be given to the other rather than that it should be weakened by being divided between the two. Whether the Lord-President and the Vice-President of the Council decide, or Lord Brougham joins them in the arbitration, the choice will present some difficulty, but the principle on which it will be made is perfectly simple. The College is for South Wales and Monmouthshire; and it must be placed where it is most likely to be freely accessible to the people, and has the prospect of the most active and liberal support. The town which does most for the College and for the district which it is most intended to benefit will in this matter do most also for itself.—*Daily News*.

LONDON GOSSIP.

(FROM THE "WORLD.")

The terrible malignity of Egyptian typus has been sadly exemplified in the recent deaths of Captain Francis Doyle, 2d Dragoon Guards, and Lieutenant Eugene Brett, Scots Guards, two of the most promising officers in the service. Captain Doyle returned from Cairo looking thin and ill, but Mr. Brett appeared in perfect health. After a painful struggle for two months both sank under the same dreadful malady—victims to poisoned air and water. It is remarkable that, like poor Colonel Balfour, they had also volunteered for the campaign. During the dangerous illness of Lord Ripon in March, 1881, Mr. Brett watched day and night by his bed-side, greatly endearing himself to the Viceroy and Lady Ripon, by whom he will be greatly missed, as well as by many sorrowing friends and relations at home.

Baker Pacha seems to have been somewhat victimised. With the full knowledge of the Government, the Khedive appointed him to organise the Egyptian army, and no objection was raised until he had fully matured his plans, when, with unexpected suddenness, and to the indignant surprise of the parties most immediately concerned, it necessarily fell through. The apparent reason for springing this mine upon the Egyptian ruler of Egypt was that the War Office had affirmed the principle, suggested by Baker Pacha, that British officers on full pay should be employed. Hence the gallant Valentine has to content himself with being the head of the gendarmerie and police, Sir Evelyn Wood being nominated to the command of the Egyptian army.

I will not much for the truth of the story; but I have heard that an opulent picture-dealer, laying down his morning's paper the other day to write according an eminent artist's terms, altered Shakespeare by one letter, and scribbled: "I'll take the ghost's work for a thousand pound."

Never has Sandown presented such a woe-bone appearance as on the two days racing last week, when the weather was execrable, so that the compulsory postponement of the meeting on Thursday was not unexpected. Wonderful to relate, the Duke of Hamilton won a race, and ran a dead heat for another with two Irish-bred horses, which were again in great form at the meeting. It is curious how, year after year, the best steeplechase horses come from Ireland, where the animals are breed much cheaper, for they do not go in for fashionable strains of blood.

"Ilma" says there were no elaborate dresses at Sandown, either good, bad, or indifferent. Furs of every description were seen, the most popular being astrachan, sable, and marten tails; a plain, long, tight, perfectly fitting sealskin jacket looked as anything, and a tight-fitting jacket made entirely of astrachan trimmed with very brown fur was original: this was made with astrachan cap with fur round. A plain brown hat with astrachan cap with fur round, and with astrachan trim, was also popular.

The ready-made gowns, six feet wide, and four feet deep, in front of the fences, now compulsory under Grand National rules, have not caused the grief that was anticipated. They are, however, very ugly obstacles—needing to jump, but dangerous from their great depth compared with their width, which causes broken backs if there be any falls. It would be well to increase the width to nine or ten feet, and then the risk of fatal injury to valuable horses would be greatly reduced.

Mr. Erskine Clouston and a few friends have laid the foundations of a sort of Irish suburban Sandown and Hurlingham Club for the promotion of polo, pigeon-shooting, steeplechasing, coursing, etc.; and the venture promises extremely well. Among the names of the electing committee are those of Lords Drogheda, Fingal, Dersal, and Glenmore; and Captain McCalmon. It is a phase of Home Rule that all sporting souls must appreciate, and it fills a want long recognised in Dublin.

The funeral of the Primate on Friday in the quiet churchyard of Addington, remained closely that of Mrs. Tat. In the same place four years ago, though of course the attendance was larger and more representative. It possessed features of interest which surpassed even those of the great ecclesiastical pageant in Westminster Abbey, for the arrangements of the simple and domesticity of his character which so evidently endeared him to the people of this country. He filly rests by the side of Catherine and Crawford Tait, and all his later predecessors.

By the death of Mrs. Lightfoot, the Rector

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NOTICE.

A four-page Supplement is published with this day's number of the *Messenger*, and will be delivered gratis with each copy of the paper. It contains our American news and an interesting variety of literary extracts.

Great Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 13—14, 1882.

MR. GLADSTONE AND LORD DERBY.

When Mr. Gladstone welcomed Lord Derby to a place in the Cabinet, he congratulated him, no doubt, on the accession of a singularly useful ally. The speech at Manchester on Wednesday will inform him that Lord Derby prefers, before entering upon the duties of his office, to appear first in the character of the candid friend. The address is certainly one of peculiar interest and importance. As a critic of affairs Lord Derby occupies at this moment an extraordinary—we had almost said an unprecedented—position. For whilst he claims, and uses, the liberty of an outsider, he speaks with all the authority of a Minister. His characteristic caution is apparent rather in the nature of his judgments than in the frankness with which he enunciates them. We appreciate his candour—so, no doubt, do his new colleagues—but just as little does he explicitly approve, the policy of the Government for which he is about to become responsible. From his survey, however, of Party gains and losses, he arrives at the encouraging conclusion that Mr. Gladstone's Cabinet is doing the work the country wants to have done, and he admits that Ministers have gained as much as any one else from the rapidity with which the military operations in Egypt were brought to a close. Had the war gone on, he confesses it would have led to a serious division among the supporters of the Government. This was a poor prelude to the subsequent insistence on the necessity of absolute unity. Lord Derby for his part will not say that Ministers were wholly right. He is not careful to inquire whether it would have been possible, by more skilful diplomacy, to bring about a different result. It is so easy and so useless to be wise after the event. And, after all, what really determined the action of the Cabinet was the sudden withdrawal of France—an event which, the new Minister says apologetically, the Government could not have foreseen. Lord Derby nerves himself to say plainly that we really have interests in Egypt; but lest this should terrify any one, he hastens to explain how he would secure them. We have no business, he says it down, to remain in Egypt a day longer than is necessary to re-order. A British Protectorate, under whatever name, is the cry only of a small and noisy faction at home and of the Party of Absolutism abroad, which wishes to set by the two freest nations of Europe. In brief, the policy which the new Minister holds now, and to which he will perpetually revert when his colleagues are set for bolder lines, is this—that having become involved in war by the failure of the understanding with France, we are, out of deference to this discredited alliance, to sacrifice every thought of stable guarantee against the recurrence of the peril. We are, he assures us, to have a "paramount influence in Egypt"; but we must incur no responsibility to maintain it. This is not the policy of the English people; and the Statesman who, at the moment of telling off, enunciates it weakens the position of the Government which he desires to strengthen. Nor will Lord Derby's remarks on the Madagascar Question be more welcome. The matters in dispute between France and the Queen of Madagascar are, he thinks it likely, a mere pretext; and the seizure of a part of that important territory a foregone conclusion. As usual, Lord Derby reads facts aight; at action alone does he halt. There is nothing for us to do, he concludes gravely; English interests are not affected. But the nation will ask for further proof of this. The acquisition by France of a new dependency, commanding, on the one side, the straits of the East Coast of Africa, and, on the other, the Cape route to India, would gravely disquiet those who do not cultivate artificially the calm which is natural to Lord Derby.—Standard.

The *Daily News* says:—The congratulatory addresses which Mr. Gladstone received on Wednesday were no idle compliments. They expressed sentiments of admiration for his achievements and of gratitude for his services such as no other English statesman since Chatham has succeeded in arousing. Perhaps no more fitting opportunity could have been found for the speech which the most distinguished of recent converts to the Liberal party delivered at Manchester on Wednesday night. Lord Derby's remarks, interesting and valuable in themselves, derive still further weight and importance from the occasion on which they were made. His just and timely reference to the peculiarly strong position which, after a period of struggle and difficulty, the Government now holds, was admirably suited to the day on which the Liberals throughout the country were celebrating with natural and reasonable enthusiasm the fiftieth anniversary of Mr. Gladstone's entrance on public life. But there is another aspect of Lord Derby's address which will cause it to be read with even more than usual care. In spite of his decorous reticence, the public will not fail to remember the position of Lord Derby himself. On the eve of joining Mr. Gladstone's Cabinet, Lord Derby cannot but have felt a more than ordinary sense of responsibility. Yet the most cautious of contemporary statesmen, speaking with this added ground for prudence, could scarcely have avoided all allusion to the evidence of Ministerial popularity which a great northern constituency has recently given. Liverpool, as Lord Derby tersely observed, may fairly be set against Salisbury. In his brief survey of the past Lord Derby confined himself to the affairs of Egypt and Ireland. It is worth ob-

THE WEAKNESS OF THE FRENCH BUDGET.

Under this heading the *Pall Mall Gazette* criticises M. Ribot's recent statement with reference to the Extraordinary Budget, in the Chamber of Deputies:—The writer says:—But M. Ribot's report makes much clear even to the English mind. He analyzes the figures supplied by the Minister of Public Works and the Minister of Finance; and, accepting the report of the former, puts the deficit on the Extraordinary Budget for 1883 at £3,710,000. That is to say, the expenditure on public works under M. Freycinet's scheme, as now mapped out, exceeds the available credits by that amount; and of course the whole of such credits are met by borrowed money. Since the Public Works scheme began and up to the 1st of October last the total amount of these "credits" opened for the Minister of Public Works was £69,360,000, and it is estimated that of these credits only a small sum will remain unspent at the end of this year. M. Tirard, the Finance Minister, claimed that £6,400,000 would be so left, and that this money could be raised and used to lessen the deficit at the end of 1883. This estimate, however, has been entirely denied by his colleague. M. Ribot accepts the denial. Now, in 1883 the Ministers of Public Works and of War will, all told, about £21,000,000, which must be found either through the amendment of old credits or by fresh borrowing; and the trouble of the French Government lies just in this, that it has exhausted its borrowing capacity so as to have nothing to fall back upon except the communal funds, trust funds, and savings banks funds on which it can lay hands. There is no evidence that for a year to come France will be able to digest a fresh issue of Government rents. Already, however, the bulk of these available funds has been laid hold of, and the main hope of the Ministry is in their increase. The savings banks deposits have increased by over £20,000,000 between 1st January and 31st October last; and if they continue to do so, all will go well for another year. Should they not do so, which is also possible, or should the people begin to withdraw their savings to some extent, the Government can hardly escape very grave financial complications. And at the best, trouble is only postponed. The Government is due in one form or other to various classes of the public at the present time £7,500,000; and most of the available part of this money it has appropriated to pay for public works. It can only go on doing this a very little longer at the best, and the longer it goes on the more overwhelming will the burden of fixed liabilities become. While it may, therefore, be possible to agree with M. Ribot that there is no immediate danger, it is impossible to accept his opinion that the public works can easily be proceeded with on the scale traced in the first sketch of the Budget published at the beginning of the year. It must be remembered that in addition to the deficit on the Extraordinary Budget for 1883, it is estimated that there will be one of more than £4,000,000 on the ordinary one, which provides for an expenditure of £122,526,000, and that the indirect taxation of the country has recently been revealing a tendency to stagnate, if not to decline in yield, which may well cause the real deficit to be larger. Supposing that the Government is able to meet its extraordinary outlay, either by further resort to the public funds in its hands or by the issue of Treasury bills, it will still have this large deficiency on the ordinary Budget to face in the course of next year, with the prospect, unless expenses are very much cut down for 1884 or taxes heavily increased, of having to encounter new deficits at the year's end. The prospect is not ruinous, but it is full of peril. Some nations can struggle on with yawning deficiencies for many years, and seem to be none the worse; but in France it will not be so. The persistence in a policy of fabulous and unchecked expenditure is consequently far the worst danger with which the Republic has been threatened since it was established, and smooth utterances do not lessen that danger.

ENGLAND AND EGYPT.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphed on Wednesday night:—The reports which reach us from the Soudan are most conflicting. On the one hand it is confidently stated that the Egyptian troops have been completely annihilated at Darfur, and that Obeid has surrendered. On the other side it is reported that the Mahdi has retired into winter quarters in the Hassaniyan plains, and that his followers are demoralised and dispersing. The Government at any rate seems to consider that energetic action is still necessary, for regiments, as soon as formed, are despatched with all haste to Khartoum. Fifteen hundred more troops are to be sent to-morrow, and these will bring the total contingent already sent to this destination to nearly five thousand. As a proof of the good impression produced on the native population by the recent British intervention on behalf of Arabi, I may mention that public prayers have been offered in many mosques, not only in Cairo, but also in the provinces, for the Queen of England, as the Mirror of Justice. Such a fact is probably without precedent in the annals of the Mahometan world.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE ON EGYPT.—Sir Richard Temple, speaking at a Conservative meeting in the Midlands, said that, rightly or wrongly, we were masters of the situation in Egypt, but no one knew exactly in what way England was going to make use of the enormous advantages that had gained. Two things they might confidently expect to be attained:—at all events the Conservative party would doubtless demand that they should be attained. They were first, that the British interests in the passage of our troops, merchants, traders, and ships, both of war and commerce, through Egypt should be involitably secured; that the great British enterprises and industries which had been established in Egypt on the faith of British protection should be secured from robbery, plunder, and every sort of violence; and that there should be no more burning of factories, no more massacres of individual Europeans; and, secondly, that inasmuch as probably it was out of the question that we should annex Egypt, it followed that we must teach the Egyptians to govern themselves. After all, a blessing we could confer upon this danger that he might safely play what mischief he pleased; and that he was undecided—not appreciate—the steady resolve of the English people that there was a point beyond which Egyptian misgovernment must not be permitted. The question before Lord Dufferin at this moment is, whether the two Governments were so persuaded of this danger that he might safely play what mischief he pleased; and that he was undecided—not appreciate—the steady resolve of the English people that there was a point beyond which Egyptian misgovernment must not be permitted. The question before Lord Dufferin at this moment is, whether the two Governments were so persuaded of this danger that he might safely play what mischief he pleased; and that he was undecided—not appreciate—the steady resolve of the English people that there was a point beyond which Egyptian misgovernment must not be permitted. The question before Lord Dufferin at this moment is, whether the two Governments were so persuaded of this danger that he might safely play what mischief he pleased; and that he was undecided—not appreciate—the steady resolve of the English people that there was a point beyond which Egyptian misgovernment must not be permitted. 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The Proprietors and Staff of GALIGNANI'S MESSENGER tender their sincere and grateful thanks to the members of the English and French Press for the sympathy they have so spontaneously shown in connection with the death of Mr. William Galigiani.

Great Britain.
LONDON, DECEMBER 14—15, 1882.

THE NEW CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER.

Mr. Gladstone has resigned the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr. Childers has been appointed his successor, quitting the post of Secretary of State for War. This arrangement does not vacate Mr. Childers's seat, being simply an exchange of one office under the Crown for another. The electors for Pontefract will, therefore, not be called upon to exercise their suffrages. The transfer of offices is the condition precedent of the further Ministerial adjustments which we have previously indicated. In uniting in his own person the posts of First Lord of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer on the construction of his present Cabinet, as towards the conclusion of his former Government, it was doubtless Mr. Gladstone's intention to make financial reform a special feature of his administration. The defeat of the Liberal party in the elections of 1874 frustrated this aim; and the unfortunate enterprises of Lord Beaconsfield's Ministry, followed by the unhappy Egyptian complications, have interfered with its later execution. There may still be opportunity for carrying it into effect, but Mr. Gladstone no longer feels that superiority of strength which would justify him in charging himself personally with the enterprise. The only justification for the Union of the two offices of First Lord of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer in one person thus ceases, and Mr. Gladstone has promptly severed their tenure. The arrangement involved some sacrifice, though for greater good, of the legitimate ambitions and of the fair political rewards of Mr. Gladstone's associates, and the Prime Minister has acted with judgment in not perpetuating it when the purpose for which it was instituted seems no longer likely to be realised.—Of Mr. Childers's fitness for the post on which he now enters there can be no question. If not dignissimus he is dignus. Probably the City, which knows them both very well, would have preferred Mr. Goschen. Mr. Goschen has shown more signs of originality, and inventiveness, and variety of intellectual resources, than Mr. Childers has yet displayed. But Mr. Childers's health is understood to have made his relief from the laborious duties of Minister of War a necessity, and the ulterior arrangements connected with Lord Derby's entrance into the Cabinet required a shifting of offices within it rather than a further recruiting of Ministers from outside. Doubtless Lord Derby will not be the only new Cabinet Minister. Probably before Parliament meets again Sir Charles Dilke will enter the Cabinet; but the readjustment immediately in contemplation made either Mr. Childers's retirement from the Government or his nomination to the Ministry of Finance the most convenient arrangement. We do not know how far Mr. Goschen's views with respect to the County Franchise, conscientiously professed and maintained, still stand in the way of his entrance into an Administration to which he would give strength. It may be that his objection is not to household suffrage in the counties absolutely, but to household suffrage by itself and apart from a concomitant measure of redistribution. However this may be, Mr. Childers and not he becomes Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the appointment, if not absolutely the best, is yet, as we have said, practically the most convenient, and, apart from comparisons which are a little uncertain and invidious, is good in itself.—*Daily News.*

AN EPIDEMIC OF FIRES.

It is not surprising that the occurrence in rapid succession of several fires of the first magnitude should incline people to think that there is more than accident at the bottom of some of them. It is a curious, but, we believe, perfectly verified fact, that fires are always most numerous in times of commercial depression. Supposing this to be so the exact relation of cause and effect is not very accurately ascertainable, though several more or less plausible explanations of the phenomenon present themselves. The origin of the fire at Hampton Court Palace is known, and was perfectly simple. The unfortunate woman who has lost her life seems to have upset a spirit lamp, and so set fire to the clothes of her bed. But we are still entirely in the dark regarding the causes of the fires in Wood-street and at the Alhambra Theatre; and, so far as we learn, nothing has been discovered regarding the origin of Thursday's fire in Dublin. We do not under-estimate the difficulty of making a discovery of this sort. Fire is such a truly devouring element, that unless checked at an early period it seldom leaves much evidence of its cause behind. We allude, of course, to those cases in which an accident is not the obvious and unmistakeable beginning of the disaster. With a majority of fires, however, their origin is wrapped in obscurity. Smoke is seen issuing from a window, and by the time an alarm is given and those competent to observe have arrived on the scene, the flames have generally reached a pitch which prohibits any examination whatever of the spot where the fire originated. For ought any one knows or is able to find out, the contrary the fire may have been the deliberate work of an incendiary. For it cannot be doubted that few crimes are more easy of commission than incendiarism, or more difficult to discover afterwards, given the requisite means and opportunity. And that both means and opportunity are readily obtainable by those who really seem them is pretty certain. Take the case of a manufacturer who, finding his trade falling off and his affairs getting involved, should begin to think how advantageous it would be to him if he could exchange his warehouses and unsaleable stock for the large sum for which they are insured. Who can doubt that in such a case the manufacturer could if he chose set fire to his premises with only a remote chance of detection. Possibly, he would not do it with his own hand, but instruments willing and able to commit the crime would certainly be at his

service. We do not suggest that incendiarism of this sort is of at all frequent occurrence. On the contrary, we should be sorry to believe that so heinous a crime ever occurs more than once or twice in a generation. But we wish to point out that it is by no means impossible of commission. Then, again, a fire may easily result from the malice of an enemy. An *employé* under sentence of dismissal would not have long to wait before finding an opportunity of setting his master's premises in a blaze, and in all probability all proof of his crime would be swallowed up in the general destruction of the property. Together with this we should remember that there are many chances against the accidental origin of fires. Except in the case of inflammable air or spirit being upset at the same time that bedclothes or other combustible articles are ignited, it is not likely that a fire so caused would spread. If we consider how difficult it often is to light a fire in a stove, when all the conditions of rapid and complete combustion are present, it will be seen that circumstances are rather against than in favour of the chance of accidentally ignited curtains or bed-clothes communicating with the surrounding woodwork, and so setting fire to the whole house. Altogether, it must be admitted, we fear, that *prima facie* there is a good deal of evidence in favour of the theory that incendiarism is at the bottom of a great many more fires than is commonly believed. The remedy for such a state of things is not easy to find, but that it ought to be found no one will deny. In 1880 there were two thousand one hundred and ninety-four calls to fires in London, one hundred and sixty-two of which proved to be serious. The total is an increase of one hundred and fifty-three on the previous year, and is two hundred and twenty-four more than the average of the last ten years. Making all deductions for the increase in the number of houses in the metropolis during the same period, and we still have a very alarming record of conflagrations. Something ought certainly to be done to diminish its proportions.—*Morning Post.*

THE GLADSTONE CULT.

Already, we [*St. James's Gazette*] fancy, the Gladstone cult is going out. It has been forced a little too hotly of late; its preachers and its scribes have overdone their business, and thereby have insured an earlier reaction than might otherwise have happened. Besides, it is not in nature that the country can long content with intellectual activities, however "prodigious" they may be, which are destitute of judgment and false to principle. And must the Prime Minister's activities be described by whoever knows the truth about them and dares to tell it. With the history of the last two or three years plainly before us, there is no hazard in saying that his claims to be called great are pretty much the same as those of the gentleman who walked a thousand miles in a thousand hours. His readiness, his endurance, his vast capacity for work, and his yet more astonishing capacity for orating at all times and seasons are truly wonderful in a man of his age—may have been reached the foot of the ladder of civilization their ambition was to climb it so high in order to become the equals of more favoured nations. Such a one deserves every encouragement, and the Envoy was justified in a true light. He stated that by the help of the English, and also of the French, the Malagasy had abandoned their former barbarous and superstitious practices and having reached the foot of the ladder of civilization their ambition was to climb it so high in order to become the equals of more favoured nations. Such a one deserves every encouragement, and the Envoy was justified in a true light. He stated that by the help of the English, and also of the French, the Malagasy had abandoned their former barbarous and superstitious practices and having

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LONDON, DECEMBER 14—15, 1882.

THE NEW CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER.

Mr. Gladstone has resigned the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr. Childers has been appointed his successor, quitting the post of Secretary of State for War. This arrangement does not vacate Mr. Childers's seat, being simply an exchange of one office under the Crown for another. The electors for Pontefact will, therefore, not be called upon to exercise their suffrages. The transfer of offices is the condition precedent of the further Ministerial adjustments which we have previously indicated. In uniting in his own person the posts of First Lord of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer on the construction of his present Cabinet, as towards the conclusion of his former Government, it was doubtless Mr. Gladstone's intention to make financial reform a special feature of his Administration. The defeat of the Liberal party in the elections of 1874 frustrated this aim then; and the unfortunate enterprises of Lord Beaconsfield's Ministry, followed by the unhappy Egyptian complications, have interfered with its later execution. There may still be opportunity for carrying it into effect, but Mr. Gladstone no longer feels that superfluity of strength which would justify him in charging himself personally with the enterprise. The only justification for the Union of the two offices of First Lord of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer in one person thus ceases, and Mr. Gladstone has probably severed their tenure. The arrangement involved some sacrifice, though for greater good, of the legitimate ambitions and of the fair political rewards of Mr. Gladstone's associates, and the Prime Minister has acted with judgment in not perpetuating it when the purpose for which it was instituted seems no longer likely to be realised.—*Mr. Childers's fitness for the post on which he now enters there can be no question. If not dignissimus he is dignus.* Probably the City, which knows them both very well, would have preferred Mr. Goschen. Mr. Goschen has shown more signs of originality, and inventiveness, and variety of intellectual resources, than Mr. Childers has yet displayed. But Mr. Childers's health is understood to have made his relief from the laborious duties of Minister of War a necessity, and the ulterior arrangements connected with Lord Derby's entrance into the Cabinet required a shifting of offices within it rather than a further recruiting of Ministers from outside. Doubtless Lord Derby will not be the only new Cabinet Minister. Probably before Parliament meets again Sir Charles Dilke will enter the Cabinet; but the readjustment immediately in contemplation made either Mr. Childers's retirement from the Government or his nomination to the Ministry of Finance the most convenient arrangement. We do not know how far Mr. Goschen's views with respect to the County Franchise, conscientiously professed and maintained, still stand in the way of his entrance into an Administration to which he would give strength. It may be that his objection is not to household suffrage in the counties absolutely, but to household suffrage by itself and apart from a concomitant measure of redistribution. However this may be, Mr. Childers and not he becomes Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the appointment, if not absolutely the best, is yet, as we have said, practically the most convenient, and, apart from comparisons which are a little uncertain and invidious, is good in itself.—*Daily News.*

AN EPIDEMIC OF FIRES.

It is not surprising that the occurrence in rapid succession of several fires of the first magnitude should incline people to think that there is more than accident at the bottom of some of them. It is a curious, but, we believe, perfectly well verified fact, that fires are always most numerous in times of commercial depression. Supposing this to be so the exact relation of cause and effect is not very accurately ascertainable, though several more or less plausible explanations of the phenomenon present themselves. The origin of the fire at Hampton Court Palace is known, and was perfectly simple. The unfortunate woman who has lost her life seems to have upset a spirit lamp, and so set fire to the clothes of her bed. But we are still entirely in the dark regarding the causes of the fires in Wood-street and the Alhambra Theatre; and, so far as we learn, nothing has been discovered regarding the origin of Thursday's fire in Dublin. We do not under-estimate the difficulty of making a discovery of this sort. Fire is such a truly devouring element, that unless checked at an early period it seldom leaves much evidence of its cause behind. We allude, of course, to those cases in which an accident is not the obvious and unmistakeable beginning of the disaster. With a majority of fires, however, their origin is wrapped in obscurity. Smoke is seen issuing from a window, and by the time an alarm is given and those competent to observe have arrived on the scene, the flames have generally reached a pitch which prohibits any examination whatever of the spot where the fire originated. For aught any one knows or is able to find out to the contrary the fire may have been the deliberate work of an incendiary. For it cannot be doubted that few crimes are more easy of commission than incendiarism, or more difficult to discover afterwards, given the requisite means and opportunity. And that both means and opportunity are readily obtainable by those who really seek them is pretty certain. Take the case of a manufacturer who, finding his trade falling off and his affairs getting involved, should begin to think how advantageous it would be to him if he could exchange his warehouse and unsaleable stock for the large sum for which they are insured. Who can doubt that in such a case the manufacturer could if he chose set fire to his premises with only a remote chance of detection. Possibly, he would not do it with his own hand, but instruments willing and able to commit the crime would certainly be at his service. We do not suggest that incendiarism of this sort is of at all frequent occurrence. On the contrary, we should be sorry to believe that so heinous a crime ever occurs more than once or twice in a generation. But we wish to point out that it is by no means impossible of commission.

PARIS, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1882.

PARIS: PRICE 40 CENTIMES
OUT OF PARIS: 45 CENTIMES

Then, again, a fire may easily result from the malice of an enemy. An *employé* under sentence of dismissal would not have long to wait before finding an opportunity of setting his master's premises in a blaze, and in all probability all proof of his crime would be swallowed up in the general destruction of the property. Together with this we should remember that there are many chances against the accidental origin of fires. Except in the case of inflammable air or spirit being upset at the same time that bedclothes or other combustible articles are ignited, it is not likely that a fire so caused would spread. If we consider how difficult it often is to light a fire in a stove, when all the conditions of rapid and complete combustion are present, it will be seen that circumstances are rather against than in favour of the chance of accidentally ignited curtains or bed-clothes communicating with the surrounding woodwork, and so setting fire to the whole house. Altogether, it must be admitted, we fear, that *prima facie* there is a good deal of evidence in favour of the theory that incendiarism is at the bottom of a great many more fires than is commonly believed. The remedy for such a state of things is not easy to find, but that it ought to be found no one will deny. In 1880 there were two thousand one hundred and ninety-four calls to fires in London, one hundred and sixty-two of which proved to be serious. The total is an increase of one hundred and fifty-three on the previous year, and is two hundred and twenty-four more than the average of the last ten years. Making all deductions for the increase in the number of houses in the metropolis during the same period, and we still have a very alarming record of conflagrations. Something ought certainly to be done to diminish its proportions.—*Morning Post.*

THE "GLADSTONE CULT."

Already, we [*St. James's Gazette*] fancy, the Gladstone cult is going out. It has been forced a little too hotly of late; its preachers and its scribes have overdone their business, and thereby have insured an earlier reaction than might otherwise have happened. Besides, it is not in nature that the country can be long content with intellectual activities, however "prodigious" they may be, which are destitute of judgment and false to principle. And so must the Prime Minister's activities be described by whosoever knows the truth about them and dares to tell it. With the history of the last two or three years plainly before us, there is no hazard in saying that his claims to be called great are pretty much the same as those of the gentleman who walked a thousand miles in a thousand hours. His readiness, his endurance, his vast capacity for work, and his yet more astonishing capacity for orating at all times and seasons are truly wonderful in a man of his age—wonderful and fascinating. And it may have been remarked, perhaps, that nearly all the Jubilee panegyrics has turned upon the athleticism of the Minister's intellect and its versatility. And why? Simply because nothing better can be said of it. But intellectual force, address, and hardihood do not equip a Minister, even though he can at the same time boast of the purest and best intentions. Though nervous energy is an admirable thing in itself, and though there is no gift more fortunate for its possessor or more pleasing to others than the "gift of the gab," yet these are but contributors to statesmanship at their best, and are not of its essence. It is even possible for a man to abound in nervous energy, and yet to be mad; it is possible to have a most flowing and most winning tongue, and yet to be neither wise nor good. Be it observed, we do not say that Mr. Gladstone is mad, in the common understanding of the word, nor that he isn't good. But we do say that all the vigour and hardihood and flexibility of his mind can never compensate for the one thing wanting. What we had to say of him at the beginning of the session he made more true before its close; and the nearer he approaches the end of his career, the nearer will it come into the light. What makes a statesman what alone entitles any man to pretend to rule and guide an empire, is that combination of things which we usually describe as "judgment." Foresight, discretion, a fine common-sense exhibited in the just calculation of conditions and chances, —these make the true statesman. A Minister may have great gifts, but if he shows neither foresight nor discretion, if his anticipations are commonly falsified and his calculations generally wrong, then to talk of him as a statesman is to talk nonsense. And though Mr. Gladstone's admirers, and yet more his liveried littérateurs, may exclaim against such an opinion in their shrillest tones, yet it is a matter of demonstration out of his own mouth that it is a just opinion. There is scarcely a single point in his conduct and in his legislation during the whole period of office since Lord Beaconsfield's defeat that does not prove him the victim of delusion. One after the other they have been founded on calculations that have proved false and anticipations foredoomed to disappointment. Even where affairs have gone well with him, as in the case of Egypt, they have yet taken a course which he did not foresee, and in direct contradiction of all that he purposed and expected. And this the country could not fail to find out, and is finding out; while at the same time it has more and more reason to be shocked with his audacity in juggling with pledges and promises. They may say what they please who love him, but the days of his popularity are drawing to a close; and if when he retired in 1874 he left his party in distress, were he to retire now he would leave his politics in confusion. This is which makes the entrance of Lord Derby into the Government a matter of so much importance to the Liberal party. It gives them a new lease of hopeful expectancy; and this hope will be all the more lively after the address which his lordship delivered at Manchester yesterday. In that address he proclaimed himself a thorough-going *vert*, even taking up with the jargon of his new creed in a most surprising manner. But we shall allow ourselves to say that though the whole tone and tenor of Lord Derby's speech will give great delight and encouragement to the party of his adoption for a time, yet it will not be long before he brings upon them and upon the country great embarrassments. No sooner does he open his mouth as a Liberal leader than he justifies all what we anticipated from him. What he had to say about Egypt, about France, about the nefarious designs of the German Government

is pregnant with mischief; and we shall be surprised if the mischief does not declare itself even before his lordship's views have time to be translated into a policy. But that is far too large and far too serious a matter for us to enter upon to-day.

THE PACIFIC FORCE IN FRANCE.

The postponement of the estimate for the Tonquin expedition by the French Ministry probably foreshadows its abandonment. According to the story told by the French papers yesterday, M. Duclerc had decided to ask for a vote of credit for eleven million francs to complete the conquest which M. Rivière has begun in the province of Tonquin. The final discussion in the Cabinet on the subject took place almost simultaneously with the arrival of a telegram that 10,000 Chinese troops had entered Tonquin, and were prepared to make common cause with the Tonquines against the foreign invader. The French Ministers were, therefore, confronted with the probability of a war with the Chinese Empire if they persisted in their forward policy on the Red River. The Cabinet was divided. The Minister of Marine and one of his colleagues, it is said, were urgent for action at any cost. The others were doubtful. A warm discussion ensued, which was terminated—so the story goes—by the emphatic decision of President Grévy against the vote. Thereupon M. Duclerc is said to have torn up the request for a credit, and the expedition is said to be practically abandoned. Without putting too much faith in any circumstantial accounts of proceedings in Cabinets, there seems to be little doubt that the French Government are on the point of recoupling from the enterprise to which they seemed to be committed in the further East. What has taken place in the Cabinet about Tonquin offers a close parallel to that which took place in the Chamber about Egypt. The career of the Forward school has received a sudden check at the moment when it felt itself most secure, and the pacific spirit of the French democracy has reasserted its authority over the policy of France. This is very satisfactory. In the case of Egypt a Cabinet had to be sacrificed before the rulers of France were able to appreciate the determination of the nation to remain at peace. In the case of Tonquin, the check was applied in the Cabinet itself. Slowly the truth is spreading in official quarters that the masses of the French democracy are, for the present at all events, in a fighting mood. They have had enough of intervention in Tunis, and are in no humour to countenance another M. Roustam in Tonquin. It is not to be wondered at that this change in the views of the French electors has not yet made itself felt in the remoter regions of Asia and Africa, where French commandants and French explorers are seeking to extend the influence, the authority, and the dominions of France. It was not till July that the altered temper of the democracy made itself felt in the Chamber. It is only this week that it has asserted itself in the Chamber. In time it may cool the ardour of the Frenchmen who, standing as sentinels on the outposts of the empire, spend their lives in dreaming of a millennium which all mankind shall repose under the tricolour. But Englishmen of all people can least wonder that the change of mood at the centre has not yet made itself felt at the extremities. It is nearly three years since the English people decisively repudiated a policy of aggression, but how few of our representatives abroad appreciate the far-reaching revolution of which last general election was but the outward and visible sign! It is a source of sincere satisfaction to all who, with Mr. Gladstone, regard the Anglo-French alliance as one of the most valuable securities for the progress of civilisation, that the same repugnance to foreign adventure which overthrew Lord Beaconsfield should be so powerful in the midst of the French democracy. It is upon the ascendancy of that spirit on both sides of the Channel that we have to depend for the maintenance of the good understanding between England and France. This fact is one which should never be forgotten in all discussions of such questions as that of Madagascar. It is quite natural that the French of Nossi Bé and Réunion and the consuls and commandants in those parts should fret themselves about Madagascar, and it is inevitable that with a strong pressure from colonial and consular advocates of aggression which we usually describe as "judgment." Foresight, discretion, a fine common-sense exhibited in the just calculation of conditions and chances, —these make the true statesman. A Minister may have great gifts, but if he shows neither foresight nor discretion, if his anticipations are commonly falsified and his calculations generally wrong, then to talk of him as a statesman is to talk nonsense. 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THE MALAGASY ENVOYS.

The cordial welcome which the Malagasy Envoys received at the Fishmongers' Hall on Thursday evening gave audible expression to the feeling with which their visit to this country is generally regarded. They came to England in the hope of being able to avert the grave and unprovoked danger which threatens the tranquillity of their beautiful island; and the Prime Warden, in proposing the toast of their health, was able to show that in the interests of civilisation, no less than on grounds of humanity, they are entitled to the public sympathy:—

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ENGLAND AND FRANCE.

The Times, discussing the relations of England and France in the Egyptian question, says the British Government is acting with the assent and almost in virtue of the direct action of Europe; and its conduct has not provoked the slightest protest or sign of dissatisfaction, unless it be from Paris. Europe finds a guarantee of peace in the fact that England alone is prosecuting the final settlement of the question, whereas a combined action between the Western Powers would appear fraught with germs of future trouble. To accede to the demands of France would be to compromise the delicate understanding on which the Government hopes to freely secure the protection of British interests without the necessity of foreign intervention. The Times does not believe Europe would sanction the co-operation of any other Power on the banks of the Nile, and adds that it will be a pity if the French Government decline to recognise the strength of the influence which prevented their predecessors from landing troops in Egypt or taking part in the bombardment of the fortresses erected by Arabi.

THE MURDERS IN PHENIX PARK.

The inquiry with regard to the Phoenix Park murders was confined on Saturday. Though it has not transpired up to the present what evidence was elicited, it is known that the knives which, as already published, were found in the house of an ex-suspect, corresponded exactly with the cuts in the clothes of Lord Cavendish and Mr. Bourke. It is also alleged that the opinion of some of the most eminent surgeons who examined the bodies is that the wounds were such as would be inflicted by weapons similar to those discovered by the police. They were discovered in the house of an ex-suspect, whose house was searched at the time of his arrest without any result. Whilst he was in prison the police deemed it necessary again to search the house, and on the second occasion the weapons were found. The knives are what are commonly known as surgical triangular knives, thousands of which were used during the recent Turco-Russian war, nearly all of which were sold by the London firm, who it is stated, disposed of their entire stock during that war. It is curiously observed that one of the prisoners who have been recently returned for trial in connection with the Abbey-street outrage and the attempt to shoot Judge Lawson, has turned Queen's evidence, and that important evidence in the hands of the authorities.

At the Dublin Commission Court on Saturday, the trial of Thomas Higgins, (Tom) for the wilful murder of Joseph Huddy, a bailiff in the employ of Lord Ardilaun, on the 3rd January last, was continued before Mr. Justice O'Brien. The learned judge, on taking his seat on the bench at eleven o'clock, proceeded at once to address the jury. The jury retired at three minutes past one o'clock. At thirty-five minutes past two the jury came into their box, and handed down the issue paper, with a verdict of "Guilty." Mr. Geale then stated the result of the trial to the prisoner, in the usual form, and added, "I have no right to say why judgment of death should not be passed on you in the usual form." The prisoner said he had a few words to say. "On my oath I never fired a shot at John Huddy, nor Joseph Huddy, any other man in the world, since the day I was born. Yet Kerigan and his family have sworn falsely. That is all I have to say, gentlemen." Mr. Justice O'Brien: "Thomas Higgins, you have been convicted of this dreadful crime on evidence so clear and certain, that in the mind of any person who heard it no trace or manner of doubt can remain. Another person still remains to be tried on the same charge, and I wish to avoid any observations that might prejudice the result of that trial. But it is clear, at all events, what the extent of your criminality was. You bore a chief, and cruel, and bloody part in this bloody business of the murder of the Huddys. You are proved to have been a person who fired shots into the bodies of those two men, the aged man and the unoffending youth, neither of whom had done you any wrong, and to whom you had no reason for anger, or killing them as they lay on the ground without pity or mercy. Your unhappy fate affords a terrible lesson and example to all those who engage in these secret crimes. The confederates of which this crime has arisen have but one issue—crime, and crime has but one issue—misery and death. All the conspiracies will come to an end. The law will be vindicated sooner or later, but certainly and finally the whole web of crime will be unravelled at last, and those who commit crime will find themselves involved in punishment. But a little space of time remains to you—your days are nearly ended—and that short space of time I implore you to use in preparing for the eternity into which shortly you must pass. His lordship then assumed the black cap and passed sentence of death. The prisoner was then removed.

The new proclamations were issued late on Saturday night by the Lord Lieutenant, though they are dated the 11th of November. The first of them offers a reward of £500 for such private information as shall lead to the identification of any person concerned in, or privy to, the murders of the Chief and Under Secretaries, or of the horse and car used on the occasion; or of the clothes worn by the assassin; at the time they committed the murders, or of the weapons they used. Such last-mentioned reward of £500 to be paid upon the information being corroborated to the satisfaction of the authorities by other information in their possession, even though no person should be made amenable to justice as a result thereof. Any person having any information to give may communicate it to the Assistant Under-Secretary for Police and Crime, Dublin Castle, to the Superintendent of the Dublin Detective Department, or to any other Government official in Great Britain or Ireland, verbally or by letter. If by letter, the writer, if he prefers, may give an assumed name, and a private mark, and in that case could request an answer to be inserted in any newspaper he chooses to mention.

The Prime Minister, after attending the Privy Council Windsor Castle, left on Saturday for Oxford, where he was to meet Mrs. and Miss Gladstone, and then proceed to Hawarden Castle for the Christmas holidays. Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, M.P., is now better, the acute symptoms having subsided. There is for the present no cause for grave anxiety.

The Marquis of Bath will entertain a shooting party this week Longleat.

The Marchioness of Anglesey has left 17, St. James's-place, for Bosworth Hall, Rugby, on a visit to Lady Lisgar and Sir Francis Twysden.

Earl Granville left his house on Carlton House-terms on Saturday afternoon for Walmer Castle, where his lordship is expected to remain with Lady Granville and family until after Christmas.

The Earl of Derby, after attending on Saturday the Privy Council at Windsor Castle, returned to St. James's-square, and subsequently left for Knowsley.

The Earl of Kimberley left town on Saturday evening of his return to Kimberley Hall, Norfolk.

The Countess of Rosebery gave birth to a son at Dalmeny Park, Edinburgh, on Thursday last.

Lord and Lady Brooke have during the past week been entertaining at Easton Lodge, Dunmow, the following company for a shooting party:—Count Munster, the Earl and Countess of March, Lord Rowton, Lord and Lady Capel, Colonel the Hon. Francis Bridge, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Page, Captain Williams Wynn, Miss Maynard, and Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Gerard.

The Prime Minister, after attending the Privy Council Windsor Castle, left on Saturday for Oxford, where he was to meet Mrs. and Miss Gladstone, and then proceed to Hawarden Castle for the Christmas holidays.

Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, M.P., is now better, the acute symptoms having subsided.

There is for the present no cause for grave anxiety.

MR. PARNELL IN CORK.

Mr. Parnell arrived in Cork on Sunday, and was entertained at a banquet on the 2nd January last, before Mr. Justice O'Brien. The learned judge, on taking his seat on the bench at eleven o'clock, proceeded at once to address the jury. The jury retired at three minutes past one o'clock. At thirty-five minutes past two the jury came into their box, and handed down the issue paper, with a verdict of "Guilty."

Mr. Geale then stated the result of the trial to the prisoner, in the usual form, and added, "I have no right to say why judgment of death should not be passed on you in the usual form." The prisoner said he had a few words to say. "On my oath I never fired a shot at John Huddy, nor Joseph Huddy, any other man in the world, since the day I was born. Yet Kerigan and his family have sworn falsely. That is all I have to say, gentlemen."

Mr. Justice O'Brien: "Thomas Higgins, you have been convicted of this dreadful crime on evidence so clear and certain, that in the mind of any person who heard it no trace or manner of doubt can remain. Another person still remains to be tried on the same charge, and I wish to avoid any observations that might prejudice the result of that trial. But it is clear, at all events, what the extent of your criminality was. You bore a chief, and cruel, and bloody part in this bloody business of the murder of the Huddys. You are proved to have been a person who fired shots into the bodies of those two men, the aged man and the unoffending youth, neither of whom had done you any wrong, and to whom you had no reason for anger, or killing them as they lay on the ground without pity or mercy. Your unhappy fate affords a terrible lesson and example to all those who engage in these secret crimes. The confederates of which this crime has arisen have but one issue—crime, and crime has but one issue—misery and death. All the conspiracies will come to an end. The law will be vindicated sooner or later, but certainly and finally the whole web of crime will be unravelled at last, and those who commit crime will find themselves involved in punishment. But a little space of time remains to you—your days are nearly ended—and that short space of time I implore you to use in preparing for the eternity into which shortly you must pass. His lordship then assumed the black cap and passed sentence of death. The prisoner was then removed.

The new proclamations were issued late on Saturday night by the Lord Lieutenant, though they are dated the 11th of November.

The first of them offers a reward of £500 for such private information as shall lead to the identification of any person concerned in, or privy to, the murders of the Chief and Under Secretaries, or of the horse and car used on the occasion; or of the clothes worn by the assassin; at the time they committed the murders, or of the weapons they used. Such last-mentioned reward of £500 to be paid upon the information being corroborated to the satisfaction of the authorities by other information in their possession, even though no person should be made amenable to justice as a result thereof. Any person having any information to give may communicate it to the Assistant Under-Secretary for Police and Crime, Dublin Castle, to the Superintendent of the Dublin Detective Department, or to any other Government official in Great Britain or Ireland, verbally or by letter. If by letter, the writer, if he prefers, may give an assumed name, and a private mark, and in that case could request an answer to be inserted in any newspaper he chooses to mention.

The second proclamation offers £5,000 reward for such private information as shall, within six months from the date hereof, lead to the conviction of the murderers of the secretaries. Every effort, the proclamation says, shall be made to ensure that the name or names of any person or persons who may become entitled to the said reward for private information shall not be disclosed or made public, and that the said reward shall be paid in any manner in which such person shall desire. The third proclamation offers £1,000 reward and a free pardon to anyone concerned in or privy to the murders, not being one of the four actual perpetrators who drove away from the scene on a car, as shall be to the conviction of any one of the said four murderers, or of any person concerned in or privy to the murders. The authorities will also take steps that the name of informant will not be disclosed.

It was now certain that the Arrears Act would do a considerable amount of good to the small tenants of the country. Upwards of 100,000 of them would most probably obtain more or less benefit, and £3,000,000 of arrears would very likely be wiped off from the Irish rents. During the whole course of the land movement he had felt bound to point out to the Irish tenant that the fixing of a fair rent by means of a court must inevitably fail to satisfy them for many reasons, the chief of which was that it would probably break down by its own weight, and by the inherent difficulty of its working. He maintained that the valuable benefit which might have been obtained from the Healy clause was destroyed by the alterations made by the House of Lords, and also said that, by the chicanery of the Courts of Dublin, the tenants had been cheated out of their rights to a fair rent by verbal or by letter. If by letter, the writer, if he prefers, may give an assumed name, and a private mark, and in that case could request an answer to be inserted in any newspaper he chooses to mention.

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LORD DERBY'S TRANSLATION.

The Ministerial surprise produced on Saturday must have been prepared at very short notice. Lord Derby is not a man who could have been asked to call in Downing-street in order that the Prime Minister might see what place could be found for him. There must have been a specific post offered and accepted; and the positiveness of the statement that were in circulation leaves no doubt that in the first instance this post was the India Office. At the last moment this arrangement was altered—so completely, indeed, that down to Saturday morning the fact was unknown to those who were most likely to have early news of it. It is not difficult, however, to divine a reason at once for the change and for the speed with which it was carried out. It was not till Thursday that Lord Derby's speech at Manchester could be read by the Prime Minister; and the interval between then and Saturday was not too long for the redistribution of offices that must at once have been set on foot. That we do not exaggerate the effect which that speech was calculated to produce is shown by the tone of the principal journals in Paris and Berlin; and to all appearance its influence on Mr. Gladstone was not less marked. Unless something could be done to negative the inference, it would be universally assumed that Lord Derby's observations about Egypt expressed the mind of the Cabinet, and that Egypt was to be left to itself. Now, happily, something has been done to negative this inference; though whether that something will be sufficient is another question. Where Egypt is concerned the Indian Secretary is only second in importance—if, indeed, he be second—to the Foreign Secretary himself; and the most obvious means of conveying to foreign Powers that the Government were not bound by what Lord Derby had said before coming into the Cabinet was to give him another department. The very circumstance that the change was made at the eleventh hour would add to its significance. Prince Bismarck and M. Duleure would read between the lines of the *Gazette*, and would see in Lord Derby's appointment to the Colonial Office an assurance that the foreign policy of the English Government had not been framed on the lines just laid down by him at Manchester. This, it can hardly be doubted, is the meaning of what happened on Saturday. Lord Derby enters the Cabinet on the understanding that as regards Egypt bygones are to be bygones, and that the new Secretary of State comes into the Cabinet not to influence a policy still under discussion, but to accept a policy already determined on. If this is the right interpretation of the change in Lord Derby's destination, it is of the utmost importance that the Government should not be content with what has been done. The matter is too serious to be left in any uncertainty. The acceptance of Lord Derby's views about Egypt would mean a revolution in the relations which are supposed to exist between England and the German Powers. It would imply that in the controversies, near or remote, which may arise out of the reconstitution of government in Egypt—which, for anything that can be known to the contrary, may mean all the controversies associated with the ultimate settlement of the Eastern Question—the English Government will be found, or at all events will wish to be found, on the side of France, not on the side of Germany. When everything has been done, however, it will still be impossible that Lord Derby's acceptance of office should make an unfavourable impression in Germany and a too favourable one in France. Important as the Egyptian question is, it is by no means the only question of foreign policy that may any day arise; and upon such as arise hereafter Lord Derby will necessarily have a telling voice in the Cabinet.—*St. James's Gazette*.

THE WARLIKE PREPARATIONS OF RUSSIA.

One of the unpleasant features of the discussion that is at present being renewed on the relations of Germany and Austria to each other and to other States are the statements, repeatedly circulated, concerning the warlike preparations of Russia. Our Correspondent in Berlin has sent us some interesting but somewhat alarming figures concerning the accumulation and distribution of Russian troops along the Austrian frontier. "The whole of the troops together," he says, "are estimated at four hundred thousand men. All the commanders are already appointed, and have sealed instructions, which are to be opened only upon the receipt of further telegraphic orders." On the other hand, though complaints are still made in Berlin of the remissness of the Austrian War Department, and though the military authorities of Vienna are reproached with carrying out reforms at a pace that promises to render the period of transition, and, therefore, to some extent of disorganisation, dangerously long, we hear periodically that on the Russian frontier of Austria-Hungary the Dual Empire is acting in much the same spirit as its Muscovite neighbour. It does not require to be pointed out again, that the central fact in the relations of Austria and Russia is their latent and ineradicable antagonism. The "Warder of the Balkans" must be struck down if the Byzantine dreams of the Slavonic race are ever to be turned into realities. But behind Austria there stands a yet more formidable foe; otherwise the stroke would have been dealt long since. The Austro-German Alliance must be regarded as a strictly defensive one. But Prince Bismarck is not the man to wait for a blow to be struck at himself, or at one of his friends, merely lest he should be called an aggressor. He has too firm a grasp of things ever to become the slave of words. What Russia is doing, and what Russia is meditating, are thoroughly well known to him; and if he had convinced himself that Russia was preparing for hostilities at a convenient moment against Austria, it is probable that he would anticipate the intention in a manner highly inconvenient to those that harboured it. It has always been open to doubt whether the strong reluctance of the aged Emperor to do, or to permit, anything that would commit Germany to active hostility against Russia has not exercised a controlling effect upon the policy of the Chancellor. The Emperor has attained a great age; his health is somewhat delicate, and it is impossible not to speculate upon the effect his disappearance from the political scene would have upon the policy of Germany. It is quite possible that, delivered from the scruples of his Imperial Master, Prince Bismarck would determine to bring these recurring rumours of Russian hostility to Germany to a sharp and definite issue. At the same time, it has to be remembered that the Muscovite spectre has for the present replaced the French bogbear; and Prince Bismarck has not had that success with his financial proposals which would warrant him in dispensing with the material for a judicious and seasonable scare. He may not get his Budget scheme; but money he must have for the Army; and perhaps the best way of getting it is to fill the minds of his countrymen with alarms concerning the military preparations and the political restlessness of Germany's Eastern neighbour. In granting the possibility of the existence in Prince Bismarck's mind of a conviction that it will become necessary to put an end to the menace on the Eastern frontier of Germany and Austria, we are far from regarding it as a proof of the aggressive character of the Austro-German Compact, and still less as a reason for speculating upon the advantages which would ensue from the formation of a counter-pacific alliance between England, France, and Italy. This country has no reason to think that the understanding between Germany and Austria was conceived, directly or indirectly, against itself; nor can anyone allege, or indicate, any step the two Powers are likely to take which would necessitate our looking out for special alliances. Italy, we fancy, is precisely in the same situation; and there can be little question that the Italian Government would rather have the "cold courtesy" of the German Powers than the most effusive friendship with France. The entrance of Lord Derby into a Cabinet the Head of which at one time cherished strong prejudices against Austria, and in which the Secretary and Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs have notorious French leanings, may possibly encourage some persons in France to imagine that counterbalance to the Austro-German Alliance might be constructed in the fashion we have described. But that is the idlest dreaming. England wishes to remain on good terms with France; and the difficulty of doing so has been greatly lessened by the incapacity for ambitious enterprises from which France has for some time been suffering. But we are all well aware that France or Russia, if they could succeed between them in crushing Germany, would once more be as aggressive and arrogant as it is matter of history they were before Germany took the lead in Europe. No Englishman would wish to see the old situation revived, and that circumstance constitutes for us the value of the Austro-German Alliance.—*Standard*.

THE EGYPTIAN BUDGET.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphed on Monday night:—

The Ordinary Egyptian Budget is expected to show a deficit of about a hundred and fifty thousand pounds, and there is no surplus to meet the four hundred thousand pounds required for the Extraordinary Budget of the following year. Though this latter Budget is styled extraordinary, there are certain fixed charges falling upon it, as for instance, the hundred thousand pounds needed for the Soudan. On the other hand, there will probably be sacrifices and economies which will enable it to show some surplus. The sum yearly set aside for the *amortissement* of the Debt has been already expended in buying up bonds. These, however, have not yet been cancelled. It is now a question whether to cancel them in the ordinary course, and borrow a million, as allowed by the Law of Liquidation, so as to enable the Treasury to continue current payment; or issue the bonds afresh and make an effort to struggle on without borrowing. The most serious calls will be made by the professional reputation of an officer is not, in fact, worth an hour's purchase. . . . He may have served his country honourably and well for years, may have led his regiment in action with distinction, and have earned the highest honours which it was in the power of the State to confer upon him. Yet, when the turning-point in his career comes, he may be subjected to the mortification of seeing another passed over his head—merely because there is anything against him but that the Minister in office at the time is so wanting in the sense of all that is right as to sanction his supercession in order to help on a junior who is a member of a certain clique which happens to be in favour.

—*St. James's Gazette*.

THE MINISTRY.

Important Ministerial changes having now been made, says the *Daily News*, a complete list of the present members of the Government and officers of the Royal Household who retain office with the Government will be found useful. The following list, which has been specially prepared for the *Daily News*, is arranged on an original plan, showing at a glance the names of Ministers and Officers of the Household in each House of Parliament, and distinguishing those who are Cabinet Ministers, while placing the officials in the various departments together:—

The names of Cabinet Ministers are printed in *ITALIC*; Ministers and those marked thus * are Privy Councillors.

Marked thus + Privy Councillor for Ireland.

THE MINISTRY.

OFFICES. LORDS. COMMONS.

First Lord Treasury. W. E. GLADSTONE

Chancellor of the Exchequer. H. C. E. CHURCHILL

Junior Lord. G. G. COATES

" " H. J. GLADSTONE (without salary)

Patronage Sec. R. W. DUFF (Vacant)

Financial Sec. Lord R. GROSVENOR

Lord Chancellor Lord SELBORNE

President of Council. Earl SPENCER

Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Sir W. H. HARBOURT

Home Secretary. Sir C. DILKE

Under Secretary. Sir C. DILKE

For Secretary. Earl GRANVILLE

For Secretary. Earl MORTLEY

For Secretary. Earl of KINNEELEY

For Secretary. Earl of ERFIELD

For Secretary. Earl NORTHBROOK

Civil Lord. Sir T. BRASSEY

Secretary. H. C. BANNERMAN

Ch. Dh. LAN. Held provisionally by Lord KIMBERLEY

Board of Trade. J. CHAMBERLAIN

Secretary. J. HOLMES

Post. G. G. DODSON

Secretary. J. T. HIBBERT

Ch. Sec. Ireland. G. O. TREVELYN

Postmaster-General. H. FAWCETT

V. P. of C. E. H. F. COOMBE

Com. Wks. G. J. S. LEFÈVRE

Postmaster-General. G. O. MORGAN

Att.-Gen. Sir H. JAMES

Gen. Adm. Sir F. HERSCHEL

At-Q. of India. T. W. M. JOHNSON

Advoc. Gen. A. M. PORTER

At-Q. of Ire. J. B. BALFOUR

Advocate. A. ASHER

ROYAL HOUSEHOLD.

Lord Steward. Earl SYDNEY

Treasurer. E. of BREADALBANE

Controller. L. KENSINGTON

Lord Chamberlain. Earl of KEAMORE

Vice-Chamberlain. Earl of CHAMBERLAIN

Master of House. D. of WESTMINSTER

Master of Buck. Earl of CORK

Capt. of Gent. Earl of CANTERBURY

Capt. of Yeomen. Lord CARRINGTON

Capt. of the Guard. Lord MONSON

L-in-Waiting. Earl of DALHOUSIE

" " Earl of TOLLETON

" " Lord MELVILLE

" " Lord RIBBLESDALE

" " Lord SUDDEY

" " Lord WROTHESLEY

" " Lord SANDBURS

" " Lord THURLOW

Parliamentary Groom-in-Waiting. (Vacant.)

THE RECENT PROMOTIONS IN THE ARMY.

The *Army and Navy Gazette*, commenting upon the promotions which have been made since the return of the troops from Egypt, publishes a letter from "one of Mr. Childers's political supporters," a retired officer, and one of those who has strongly advocated the reforms carried out during the last twelve years. The writer says:—

"A more scandalous proceeding than the recent supersession of the senior colonels many of whom I know to be really excellent soldiers in every way, could not be imagined. How Mr. Childers can have allowed himself to be a party to such an act is to me beyond comprehension. A Minister who will countenance such a job must surely have lost all sense of honour." The words, which would be strong even if they had not been coming from a pronounced Liberal, express, according to the *Army and Navy Gazette*, the feeling of all those who have any knowledge of the usual ins and outs of War Office administration in the present day; and that journal declares that whatever may have been the faults of the purchase system, it was a thousand times better than that which has taken its place. In the days of purchase it was possible to buy an hour's purchase He may have served his country honourably and well for years, may have led his regiment in action with distinction, and have earned the highest honours which it was in the power of the State to confer upon him. Yet, when the turning-point in his career comes, he may be subjected to the mortification of seeing another passed over his head—merely because there is anything against him but that the Minister in office at the time is so wanting in the sense of all that is right as to sanction his supercession in order to help on a junior who is a member of a certain clique which happens to be in favour.

—*St. James's Gazette*.

NEWS FROM IRELAND.

A desperate encounter took place on Saturday night in Castlegar, Galway, when two farmers attacked a bailiff, Martin Greashal, and his companion, named Connor. The bailiff's son came to the rescue, striking one of the assailants a violent blow on the head with a hatchet. He now lies in a critical condition. The assailants were tenants, and the bailiff was employed on the Clarinbridge estate.

The Dublin police on Saturday night made a general search, under the provisions of the Arms Act, which caused a good deal of excitement in the city. Upwards of two hundred and fifty persons were arrested, and a bag of oats from 12 to 14 stone, slung over his back, his driver balancing it to keep it from slipping off. I asked why that mode of carriage was chosen in preference to a donkey-cart, and the reply was, "Because the oats are often threshed in the open field; and where, from the uneven nature of the ground, that is impracticable, the public road serves as the threshing floor—sometimes with sheets spread underneath, but in other cases without them. They prefer," he said, "in some cases to have a little earth mixed with the oats; it makes them heavier." Still more primitive is the mode of carriage of the oats, whether to the market or to the mill. Few four-footed animals are to be seen in the district; but the last thing that a Mayo peasant will put with is his donkey. But the same peasant appears either never to have had, or to have parted, with his donkey-cart. The traveller on the road from Ballaghaderreen to Charlestown will meet numbers of these useful and inexpensive animals, proceeding either to the town or to the mill, laden with a bag of oats from 12 to 14 stone, slung over his back, his driver balancing it to keep it from slipping off. I asked why that mode of carriage was chosen in preference to a donkey-cart, and the reply was, "Because the oats are often threshed in the open field; and where, from the uneven nature of the ground, that is impracticable, the public road serves as the threshing floor—sometimes with sheets spread underneath, but in other cases without them. They prefer," he said, "in some cases to have a little earth mixed with the oats; it makes them heavier."

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individual had his pockets turned out, and any letters or documents found upon him very carefully perused. As a result the search proved a failure, for evidently the suspected parties had left their revolvers at home. No arms were found save one revolver taken from a sailor in a public-house on the quays. He was a stranger in the city, and was unaware of the *Arms Act* being in force. The police did not arrest him, but took his name and address. In an other house on the quay they found concealed a couple of revolvers

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Great Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 21—22, 1882.

THE MINISTRY.

The present condition of the Ministry is peculiar. Many of the great offices are doubled with another and usually a smaller office. Mr. Gladstone has only just divided the tenure in his own person of the Chancellorship of the Exchequer and the First Lordship of the Treasury. This exceptional arrangement was recommended for a time by the exceptional advantages which it promised and which might have been realised had Mr. Gladstone's strength continued equal to the double burden imposed upon him. The appointment of Mr. Shaw Lefevre to act as Deputy Postmaster-General until Mr. Fawcett shall be able to resume the duties he has admirably discharged unites for the time the charge of the Post Office with that of Public Works. Lord Kimberley is Secretary of State for India and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. Lord Spencer is Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland and Lord President of the Council. Lord Carlingford is Lord Privy Seal and Acting or Deputy Lord President. The perpetuation of this twofold distribution of offices is of course out of the question. Lord Spencer's colleagues are naturally anxious that on the completion of his arduous and self-sacrificing labours as Lord-Lieutenant he should return not only to his place on the Ministerial Bench, but should resume the work of that department of the Government over which he still titularly presides, and for which he is specially qualified. In the distribution of the incongruous work devolving upon the Privy Council office, Lord Spencer has attended rather to that portion of it which relates to cattle, and Mr. Mundella to education. Lord Spencer has the knowledge of all matters bucolic and agricultural which is associated, not less than a thorough and enlightened Liberalism with the name he bears. But in his absence, almost the whole work of the department falls upon Mr. Mundella. It is not possible that a temporary and dutiful Lord President, even though he be as versatile as Lord Carlingford, should be able to take his fair share of the business of the office. The undivided labour of the permanent strength of any one Minister, even though he be as energetic and able as Mr. Mundella, Lord Spencer's special and unique knowledge of Ireland makes his retention of Cabinet office, with a view to his resumption of his place in Council and in Parliament, so desirable as to be almost imperative. But an arrangement might surely be made which should give his proper working power to the office of which Lord Spencer is the head. His transfer to the post of Lord Privy Seal or to that of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster would maintain his place in the Cabinet. At the same time it would offer occasion for a redistribution of offices which might restore the efficiency of the Privy Council Department, and give facility for the further adjustments which have been announced and for which the public is looking. With Lord Spencer as Chancellor of the Duchy, an office which could very conveniently be held with the Lord Lieutenant, Lord Kimberley might become President of the Council, Lord Northbrook Secretary of State for India, and Sir Charles Dilke, or some member of the Cabinet to whose office Sir Charles Dilke might succeed. First Lord of the Admiralty, Outside the Cabinet, Ministerial changes are inevitable. General opinion in the House of Commons points to Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice as Sir Charles Dilke's successor in the Under-Secretaryship for Foreign Affairs; but general opinion has pointed to Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice before for vacant posts in the Government, and has been mistaken or premature. He has, however, that thorough and minute knowledge of foreign politics, that more than diplomatic and almost native acquaintance with French, which, in spite of Prince Bismarck, is still the international language of Europe, and that hereditary taste and capacity for business, which are essential in the place Sir C. Dilke is about to quit. It is not easily intelligible why Ministerial recognition of Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice's Parliamentary position and ability has been so long deferred. One of the incidental disadvantages of the transfer of the India Office to a peer is that it makes Lord Enfield's retirement from the Under-Secretaryship of that department necessary. Lord Enfield has done during many years steady and unobtrusive service in different posts, service which has not received acknowledgment in excess of its quality and duration, and it is to be hoped that means will be found of continuing his connection with the Government in an office not inferior to that which he is about to relinquish.—*Standard*.

kept, was moved by a sense of duty to complain to the Captain, and subsequently to head-quarters. So far from finding redress, he was subjected to oppressive treatment; told to produce his witnesses and then arrested, that he might not do so in time; and finally condemned and disgraced because he failed to prove his case. The Court-martial not only investigated the charge of oppressive treatment which thus arose, but also went into all the original allegations of misappropriation of stores and the like. Notwithstanding the defence of Mr. Bullen, which really suggests many points for reflection, the Court were unable to acquire Captain Heron of more than two of the fourteen charges brought against him. It should be added that one of those two was the serious accusation that he had caused books of account to be mutilated. He stands, therefore, convicted of having sold old stores without rendering account; of having employed sailors to work at his private house; painting the house with ship's furniture; improperly condemned, that he might get it at the price of firewood; of buying timber at two pounds a ton for his own purposes as firewood for the ship, when the price of firewood was but twenty-five shillings; and, finally, of oppressing the one man who tried to put a stop to these abuses. That there have been gross abuses on the *Clyde* is unquestionable; that the Captain did employ the ship's men for his own work, and did keep very loose accounts as between his private stores and those of her Majesty, the evidence seems to show. Such a state of things is not, perhaps, so uncommon but that usage and custom might be pleaded on its behalf, but it is most objectionable, and an occasionally severe check to it is wholesome. Though it may not in the end involve dishonesty, it must always involve, for the time, badly kept accounts, and these are the broad road leading to destruction. The line of the defence was that Captain Heron necessarily left much to his inferior officer, Mr. Fitzgerald, and that the latter, finding his pay insufficient, deliberately avowed his intention of seizing all he could lay hands on. In his cabin, so it is alleged, repaid the carpet which the Captain was induced to report as sunk. He it was who punished those of the crew who would not sell tickets for the sixpenny dances on board ship. To him rather than to the Captain the witnesses say they habitually looked for orders. But upon these allegations we offer at present no comment, seeing that Mr. Fitzgerald is himself now to be tried. The point of public importance is that, whether the abuses were the work of himself, or of his Captain, or of both, it is admitted "there was dishonesty on board the ship," and that this dishonesty, with all its accompanying scandals and abuses, had been kept up through some years without question or detection. There is matter for reflection in that fact.—*Standard*.

BRITISH INFLUENCE IN EGYPT.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphed on Thursday night:—

In spite of the decision of the Council of Ministers, three guards remain over each of the houses of the exiled prisoners. The Turkish sentinels are, indeed, removed later from the houses of Ali Pehmy, but wore pheasant feathers yesterday at the house of Yacoub Samy. Their behaviour to the ladies and guests is reported as shameful. Contrary to the promises made to Mr. Bradley, the guards enter the house by day and sleep in the lower rooms at night. They also search persons entering and leaving. This species of oppression under the eyes of the English enables an idea to be formed of what, if unchecked, the vengeance taken would have been, and of what may be expected on the evacuation of the city by the troops. English moral influence, which has never been great, and is now lessening daily, though exercised under the protection of a powerful force, would cease entirely on the withdrawal of that force, the Egyptians being slowly handed back to the power of a Turkish and Cossack despotocracy. And the last state of things promises to be worse than the first. Money from the provinces is that the days of fatality are beginning again. The urgent need of some system of European inspection in regard to the administration of justice and the question of the distribution of water for the cultivation of the lands is very evident. At present the prisons are crowded with untried cases, the accused lingering for months in chains without examination. English inspection and fixed goal deliveries alone will remedy this. The irrigation abuses are not less flagrant. Influential and rich men drain the canals, to the ruin of the small proprietors. It is believed that Lord Dufferin is devoting the most serious attention to these two questions.

INFLUENCE OF CLIMATE ON ELOQUENCE.

Our English atmosphere has a curious influence in disposing Irish patriots to moderation of speech. Speaking at Stalybridge, Mr. Davitt—not by any means for the first time, it should be said—unequivocally denounces crime. "Whoever is responsible for it, whether the Land League or landlordism, it must be swept away!"

Nor shall we suspect the sincerity of his sentiment because he rests the condemnation on the practical ground that "aggravated crime was the death of the Land League." Yes, that is true. But it is also true that it makes Lord Enfield's retirement from the Under-Secretaryship of that department necessary. Lord Enfield has done during many years steady and unobtrusive service in different posts, service which has not received acknowledgment in excess of its quality and duration, and it is to be hoped that means will be found of continuing his connection with the Government in an office not inferior to that which he is about to relinquish.—*Standard*.

THE SENTENCE ON CAPTAIN MAXWELL HERON.

By the sentence of a Court-martial which has been engaged for a week in investigating the charges against him, Captain Maxwell Heron, Commander of H.M.S. *Clyde*, of the Royal Naval Reserve, at Aberdeen, was on Thursday dismissed the service. Briefly put, the case against him was this: that Mr. Hadden, the ship's Corporal, having lately found that peculation and jobbery prevailed in the financial management of the ship, and that the accounts were, to put it mildly, most loosely

THE RECENT "EGYPTIAN GAZETTE."

The following letter has been addressed to the Editor of the *Daily Telegraph*:

Sir—However careful and exact the authorities may be, or may strive to be, in giving praise and distributing honours to deserving officers, there must almost of necessity be a deserving few who, though they failed to be mentioned in despatches or to come prominently into public notice, yet, nevertheless, rendered valuable services in the campaign. The exception to this rule were, I suppose, the *regimental* and *sentimental* regulations that offer obstacles to promotion and the bestowal of honours; but in the late large *Gazette* the "exception to the rule" was mentioned. The following is the letter:

YULETIDE.

It is difficult to say when Christmas holidays begin; but, as we have already had occasion to tell, all the arrangements for the present recurrence of them are fully made. London is perhaps unusually full just now, for the time of year, which may or may not be due to the exceptionally perfect specimens of winter weather which it is at present possible to offer. That there is no place like London in winter is one of those very numerous statements which were probably never made for the first time. It appears in some just published letters of Queen Anne's time, and although Lord Bathurst who makes it there was a person of quite enough originality to invent it, it is not probable that he did. But fogs can hardly have been so black in Lord Bathurst's time as they are now, and people in those days were certainly not so subject to "depression." Depression and holidays, however, are incompatible, at any rate in idea, and there is no reason for talking about depression just now. On *Rochebeaucourian* principles it is satisfactory to reflect that if Londoners have been made somewhat uncomfortable by fog, people in Edinburgh have been made more so by frost. Frost in one way is good for holidays, because of its connection with skating; but produces widespread misery among the poorer classes, and it interferes with every one's comfort in cities, though not in the country. We are not indeed, in the days when houses used to bring home postmen frozen to the saddle and dead, with the letter-bags hanging to them, but no one even in those days could have had a much more miserable experience than the unlucky rascals who were snowed up on a Welsh railway the other day. In London one is not liable to that experience; from frozen pipes, water obtained at such a bucket from the end of the street, impassable streets, and frozen-out gardeners, are sufficient evils to most people.

Christmas weather is so closely connected with Christmas holidays that it is difficult not to think of the one in thinking of the other, even if the experience of habitually breaking fast and occasionally lurching by gaslight were not present with most of us. But sunlight is not absolutely necessary for holiday-making. Indeed, in the Arctic regions people are supposed to be the time of darkness one of special amusement, probably because they have nothing else to do. That can scarcely be said of most busy Englishmen. But the circumstances of modern times are rather in favour of holiday-making in bad weather. To be able to move long distances in tolerable security from *Yacoub* influences is a considerable advantage, and to have a variety of indoor places of amusement is another. Every year we are told that pantomime is going to be dead every year it gets unmixed signs of living a little longer. But the year in which it is dead, and the year in which it is not, are the same. The old favourites of the public in the way of entertainments hold their ground for the most part, and plenty of new ones come to take rank beside them. Indeed, the only complaint of the Londoner, or the visitor to London, as to "sights" now is not that there are none, or that they are not enough, but that so many Londoners and visitors do not want to see them that he cannot get seated. Indeed, if the probable requirements of four million people are considered this is not wonderful. There are few local places of amusement in London except of the lowest class, and almost every "sight" is crowded within a very short radius from Charing-cross. The same area that sees business done in the day, or nearly the same, sees amusement going on at night, and the enormous fringe of suburb does little but supply actors and spectators to both. Except, however, as far as pantomime is concerned, the pleasures supposed to be specially Christmas may never have been other than dead. To bulk by one's self in one's own house, or to foregather with a tolerably narrow circle of relations and friends in one's own home, or body else's, are the only methods of keeping Christmas body and soul, as the case may be. These diversions are in each case tolerably independent of weather. Bad weather decidedly increases the enjoyment of sulking, as perhaps also the tendency to sulk. It has been defined as one of the highest pleasures known to man to walk to the window of a room well filled with books, to look at people outside in a fog just not bad enough to prevent your seeing them, and then to go back to the fireside and read. This may be an improper way of keeping Christmas in the case of persons with large families, but everybody is not a person with a large family, and even all large families are not given to being boisterously gregarious. Those who are not so given have at least the advantage that they can carry the necessary apparatus for joviality or the substitutes for it each under his own belt; and those who are not given to such have much difficulty in finding others like-minded with them. Both classes are therefore tolerably independent of public provision for their pleasure. But for those who are not so independent the present Christmas and the future New Year will doubtless be at least fairly bountiful in attractions.—*Daily News*.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

On Wednesday, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar and Adm. Sir Geoffrey Hornby arrived at Osborne yesterday. Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar had luncheon with the Queen. Her Majesty dined, attended by the Dowager Marchioness of Elles and Miss Paget. Princess Bea-trice rode, attended by Miss Bauer. The Queen walked and drove with Princess Bea-

The Prince and Princess of Wales, with Prince Albert Victor and Prince George and the Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud, were present at a children's Christmas party given by the Earl and Countess of Dudley at Dudley House, Park-lane, on Thursday afternoon.

The Duke and Duchess of Norfolk left Norfolk House, St. James's-square, for Arundel Castle, on Thursday.

The Lord Chancellor and Lady Selborne and Hon. Miss Palmer have gone to Blackmore, Petersfield, for the Christmas holidays. Lady (Bellingham) Graham has nearly recovered from her recent illness, and has left for the south of France.

Mr. J. S. Poyntz, J.P., entertained the Madagascan Ambassador at dinner on Thursday at his residence at Woodford, when some of the members of the London Missionary Society were to meet him. Lady Beaumont has arrived at Thomas' Hotel from Brighton.

Sir James Paget was summoned from London on Wednesday night, and saw Lord Stamford in consultation with Drs. Quain, Marriot, Wright, and Pearce. Sir James returned to London on Thursday morning. The following was Thursday's bulletin:—

"The Earl of Stamford was extremely weak yesterday, but he passed a quiet night, and his symptoms are rather more favorable than they were yesterday. The *Morning Post* says:—A private letter has been received, giving a very satisfactory account of the health of Sir Stamford Northcote, who after a somewhat boisterous voyage in the Bay of Biscay, reached Port Mahon on the 16th inst. Heavy gales detained the *Pandora* off Gibraltar, the Governor of which, Lord Napier, dined with Sir Stamford, and party on board the yacht. Christmas Day will be spent by Sir Stamford at Palermo, and afterwards the yacht will proceed on the cruise to Malta, the cruise finishing at the end of January at Marseilles, when Sir Stamford will return to England. The right hon. gentleman has much benefited by the change and his symptoms are rather more favorable than they were yesterday."

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The boat was filled in minutes or two with water, and the heavy sea which swept the boat out of the ship also cleared the oars and the rudder away from the boat. Three of the men were washed out of the boat, and we saw the ship break up in two, and go down with the rest of the crew. This was about twenty minutes after the vessel struck. We were some distance away from her, and the captain sang out to us to try and get nearer; but as we had no oars or rudder, and as the current was carrying us away from the ship, it was impossible for us to do anything to save those who were in the ship. I would have been lost too, I believe, if I had not tied the painter round me. Lees, the other man saved, who is, like myself, an A.B., had just to sit in the boat until six o'clock on Saturday morning, when we landed close to the village of Netherwood, and then took us to his house, where we remained until the day after. He made us a meal, and so we were made more comfortable by fog, people in Edinburgh have been made more so by frost. Frost in one way is good for holidays, because of its connection with skating; but produces widespread misery among the poorer classes, and it interferes with every one's comfort in cities, though not in the country. We are not indeed, in the days when houses used to bring home postmen frozen to the saddle and dead, with the letter-bags hanging to them, but no one even in those days could have had a much more miserable experience than the unlucky rascals who were snowed up on a Welsh railway the other day. In London one is not liable to that experience; from frozen pipes, water obtained at such a bucket from the end of the street, impassable streets, and frozen-out gardeners, are sufficient evils to most people.

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Galignani's Messenger.

EVENING EDITION.

Head Office:—PARIS, NO. 224, RUE DE RIVOLI.

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Great Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 21—22, 1882.

THE MINISTRY.

The present condition of the Ministry is peculiar. Many of the great offices are doubled with another and usually a smaller office. Mr. Gladstone has just distinguished the tenure in his own person of the Chancellorship of the Exchequer and the First Lordship of the Treasury. This exceptional arrangement was recommended for a time by the exceptional advantages which it promised and which might have been realised had Mr. Gladstone's strength continued equal to the double burden imposed upon him. The appointment of Mr. Shaw Lefevre to act as Deputy Postmaster-General until Mr. Peto was able to resume the duties he has admirably discharged unites for the time the charge of the Post Office with that of Public Works. Lord Kimberley is Secretary of State for India and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. Lord Spencer is Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland and Lord President of the Council. Lord Carlingford is Lord Privy Seal and Acting or Deputy Lord President. The perpetuation of this twofold distribution of offices is of course out of the question. Lord Spencer's colleagues are naturally anxious that on the completion of his arduous and self-sacrificing labours as Lord-Lieutenant he should return not only to his place on the Ministerial Bench, but should resume the work of that department of the Government over which he still titularly presides, and for which he is specially qualified. In the distribution of the incongruous work devolving upon the Privy Council office, Lord Spencer has attended rather to that portion of it which relates to cattle and Mr. Mundella to education. Lord Spencer has the knowledge of all matters bucolic and agricultural which is associated, not less than a thorough and enlightened Liberalism, with the name he bears. But in his absence, almost the whole work of the department falls upon Mr. Mundella. It is not possible that temporary and deputy Lord President, even though he be as versatile as Lord Carlingford, should be able to take his fair share of the business of the office. The undivided labour of the complex department is in excess of the permanent strength of any one Minister, even though he be as energetic and able as Mr. Mundella. Lord Spencer's special and unique knowledge of Ireland makes his retention of Cabinet office, with a view to his resumption of his place in Council and in Parliament, so desirable as to be almost imperative. But an arrangement might surely be made which should give its proper working power to the office of which Lord Spencer is the head. His transfer to the post of Lord Privy Seal or to that of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster would maintain his place in the Cabinet. At the same time it would offer occasion for a redistribution of offices which might restore the efficiency of the Privy Council Department, and give facility for the further adjustments which have been announced and for which the public is looking. With Lord Spencer as Chancellor of the Duchy, an office which could very conveniently be held with the Lord Lieutenantcy, Lord Kimberley might become President of the Council, Lord Northbrook Secretary of State for India, and Sir Charles Dilke, or some member of the Cabinet to whose office Sir Charles Dilke might succeed, First Lord of the Admiralty. Outside the Cabinet, Ministerial changes are inevitable. General opinion in the House of Commons points to Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice as Sir Charles Dilke's successor in the Under-Secretaryship for Foreign Affairs; but general opinion has pointed to Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice before for vacant posts in the Government, and has been mistaken or premature. He has, however, that thorough and minute knowledge of foreign politics, that more than diplomatic and almost native acquaintance with French, which, in spite of Prince Bismarck, is still the international language of Europe, and that hereditary taste and capacity for business, which are essential in the place Sir C. Dilke is about to quit. It is not easily intelligible why Ministerial recognition of Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice's Parliamentary position and ability has been so long deferred. One of the incidental disadvantages of the transfer of the Lord Office to a peer is that it makes Lord Enfield's retirement from the Under-Secretaryship of that department necessary. Lord L.field has done during many years steady and unobtrusive service in different posts, service which has not received acknowledgment in excess of its quality and duration, and it is to be hoped that means will be found of continuing his connection with the Government in an office inferior to that to which he is about to relinquish.—*Daily News*.

THE SENTENCE ON CAPTAIN MAXWELL HERON.

By the sentence of a Court-martial which has been engaged for a week in investigating the charges against him, Captain Maxwell Heron, Commander of H.M.S. *Clyde*, of the Royal Naval Reserve, at Aberdeen, was on Thursday dismissed the service. Briefly put, the case against him was this: that Mr. Hadden, the ship's Corporal, having lately found that peculation and jobbery prevailed in the financial management of the ship, and that the accounts were, to put it mildly, most loosely kept, was moved by a sense of duty to complain to the Captain, and subsequently to head-quarters. So far from finding redress, he was subjected to oppressive treatment; told to produce his witnesses and then arrested, that he might not do so in time; and finally condemned and disgraced because he failed to prove his case. The Court-martial not only investigated the charge of oppressive treatment which thus arose, but also went into all the original allegations of misappropriation of stores and the like. Notwithstanding the defence of Mr. Bullen, which really suggests many points for reflection, the Court were unable to acquit Captain Heron of more than two of the fourteen charges brought against him. It should be added that one of those two was the serious accusation that he had caused books of accounts to be mutilated. He stands, therefore, convicted of having sold old stores without rendering account; of having employed sailors to work at his private house; painting the house with ship's paint; 1618, £13.—Quaritch.

THE BECKFORD LIBRARY.—The valuable books continue to keep up their prices, the average being generally about 21s per lot, the total, £2,100. Malediction London, 1780, 2 vols., £100.—Malebranche's Lettres, 1636—7, £13 5s.—Toc'hener, Mandeville, *Plaisant live*, etc., parlant molt autant que le *Pays et terre d'autre Mer* et le *Saint Voie de Jherusalem*, colouré, sm. fol., circa 1695, £31.—Quaritch, Marcial de Paris, *Vigiles du Roy Charles VII*, sm. 4te, Paris, no date, £20.—Quaritch, Marguerites de la Marguerite des Princesses, *Royne de Navarre*, 2 vols., 1547, £26.—Ellis and White, *Marguerite de Valois*, Son Tome, Paris, 1551, £19 5s.—Toc'hener, Marguerite de Valois, *L'Heptameron des Nouvelles*, 10, Paris, 1559, Louis XIV's fine copy, beautifully bound by Ruette, £400.—Pearson, another copy, Berne, 1780, £16.—B. F. Stevens; another of the same edition, with proof before letters of the engravings, £49.—Quaritch, Marot, *Œuvres*, Lyon, 1545, £29.—Quaritch, Marot, *Œuvres*, La Haye, 1545, £29.—Pearson, Marot, *Jean Sur les deux langues*, *Langage et Venise par Loy XII*, en ver, Paris, G. Tory, 1532, £45.—Toc'hener, *Martial*, *Epigrams*, fine copy, Ludg., 1546, £75.—Pearson, another edition, Ludg. Bat., 1670, £42.—Toc'hener, Martyn, (P.), *Isles nouvellement trouvées en la grande mer oceane*, sm. 4to, 1532, £127.—Quaritch, Maroli, *Hymni et Epigrammata*, 1549, £107. Grotier's own copy, £100.—Pearson, Majeri, *Atalanta fugiens*, sm. 4to, 1618, £13.—Quaritch.

PARIS, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1882.

PARIS: PRICE 40 CENTIMES
OUT OF PARIS: 45 CENTIMES

THE RECENT "EGYPTIAN GAZETTE."

The following letter has been addressed to the Editor of the *Paris Telegraph*:

Sir—However careful and exact the authorities may be, or may strive to be, in giving praise and distributing honours to deserving officers, there must almost of necessity be a deserving few who, though they failed to be mentioned in despatches or to come prominently into public notice, yet, nevertheless, rendered valuable services in the campaign which demand some public recognition. At the same time, there are often both "residential" and sentimental reasons which oblige us to give preference to the honour of the household of the Queen over that of the *exception*: the rule were many, and it is, therefore, justifiable to point out certain hard cases where the justice of an appropriate reward is apparent, and no precedent is required for the extension of a little further generosity. It is easily understood, in the first instance, that some little reticence was shown in recommending the Guards, whatever their merits may have been. Favouritism would, perhaps, have been ascribed, and thought in their case many deserved mention, yet got it. Not amongst these, however, were the men of the Household Cavalry, and these are the broad road leading to destruction. The line of the defence was that Captain Heron necessarily left much to his inferior officer, Mr. Fitzgerald, and that the latter, finding his pay insufficient, deliberately avowed his intention of seizing all he could lay hands on. In his cabin, so it is alleged, reposed the carpet which the Captain was induced to report as sunk. He it was who punished those of the crew who would not sell tickets for the sixpenny dances on board ship. To him rather than to the Captain the witnesses say they habitually looked for orders. But upon these allegations we offer at present no comment, seeing that Mr. Fitzgerald is himself now to be tried. The point of public importance is that, whether the abuses were the work of himself, or of his Captain, or of both, it is admitted "there was dishonesty on board the ship," and that this dishonesty, with all its accompanying scandals and abuses, had been kept up through some years without question or detection. There is matter for reflection in that fact.—*Standard*.

BRITISH INFLUENCE IN EGYPT.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphed on Thursday night:—

In spite of the decision of the Council of Ministers, three guards remain over each of the houses of the exiled prisoners. The Turkish sentries were, indeed, removed lately from the house of Ali Fehmy, but were placed yesterday at the house of Yaacob Samy. Their behaviour to the ladies and guests is reported as shameful. Contrary to the protest of Mr. Bradley, the general entered the house by day, and slept in the lower rooms at night. They also search persons entering and leaving. This species of oppression under the eyes of the English enables an idea to be formed of what, if unchecked, the vengeance taken would have been, and of what may be expected on the evacuation of the city by the troops. English moral influence, which has never been great, and is now lessening daily, though exercised under the protection of a material force, would cease entirely on the withdrawal of that force, the Egyptians being slowly handed back to the power of a Turkish and Circassian bureaucracy. And the last state of things promises to be worse than the first. The cry from the provinces is that that of Ismail is again to be repeated. The urgent need of a system of European inspection is referred to the administration of justice and the question of the distribution of water for the cultivation of the lands is very evident. At present the prisons are crowded with untried cases, the accused lingering for months in chains without examination. English inspection and fixed gaol deliveries alone will remedy this. The irrigation abuses are less flagrant. Influential and rich men drain the canals, to the ruin of the small proprietors. It is believed that Lord Dufferin is devoting the most serious attention to these two questions.

INFLUENCE OF CLIMATE ON ELOQUENCE.

Our English atmosphere has a curious influence in disposing Irish patriots to moderation of speech. Speaking at Stamford, Mr. Davitt—not by any means for the first time, it should be said—unequivocally denounces crime. "Whoever is responsible for it, whether the Land League or landlordism, it must be swept away."

Mr. Davitt shall we suspect the sincerity of his sentiment because he rests the condemnation on the practical ground that "agrarian crime was the death of the Land League." Yes, that is true. But it is true also that crime was the secret of its exuberant vitality. It is very well for Mr. Davitt to denounce outrage, but has his creature, the Land League, ever applied to outrage-mongers the weapon of Boycotting which was so freely given to those who helped the law? Let the proceedings in the Huddly trials tell. In the last trial, which ended in a conviction on Wednesday, the murderer was a prominent member of the local league, and was in gaol as a suspect he was supplied with food by the good ladies who managed for Mr. Farnell in his absence. They tell it must be said, the grace to attempt a defense. They could not distinguish between the criminal and the innocent. Yes; and meanwhile the suspects were being toasted *en masse* without any prejudice or favour, and simply with the idea of bringing to notice services which, inadvertently or otherwise, had escaped the attention of the military authorities. There may be others in the same category, but these are known to yours, etc., *One Who Was There*.—Dec. 21.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

Osborne, Thursday.

Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar and Admiral Sir Geoffrey Hornby arrived at Osborne yesterday. Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar had luncheon with the Queen. Her Majesty drove out, attended by the Dowager Marchioness of Ely and Miss Paget. Princess Leopoldine rode, attended by Miss Bauer. The Queen walked and drove with Princess Beatrice this morning.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, with Prince Albert Victor and Prince George and Maud, were present at a children's Christmas party given by the Earl and Countess of Dudley at Dudley House, Park-lane, on Thursday afternoon.

The Duke and Duchess of Norfolk left Norfolk House, St. James's-square, for Arundel Castle, on Thursday.

The Lord Chancellor and Lady Selborne and Hon. Miss Palmer have gone to Blackmore, Petersfield, for a week's holidays.

Lady B. Graham has nearly recovered from her recent severe illness, and left for the South of France.

Mr. J. Spicer, J.P., entertained the Madagascan Ambassadors at dinner on Thursday evening at his residence at Woodford, when some of the members of the London Missionary Society were to meet them.

Lady Beaumont has arrived at Thomas's Hotel from Brighton.

Sir James Paget was summoned from London late on Wednesday night, and saw Lord Stamford in consultation with Drs. Quain, Marriott, Wright, and Pearce. Sir James returned to London on Thursday morning.

The following was Thursday's bulletin:—

"The Earl of Stamford was extremely weak yesterday, but he passed a quiet night, and his symptoms are rather more favourable."

The *Morning Post*—A private letter

had been received, giving a very satisfactory account of the health of Sir Stafford Northcote, who, after a somewhat boisterous voyage

from the *Port Mahon* on the 16th inst.

Heavy gale detained the *Pandore* off Gibraltar, the Governor of which, Lord Napier, dined with Sir Stafford and party on board the yacht. Christmas Day will be spent by Sir Stafford at Palermo, and afterwards the yacht will proceed on the cruise to Malta, the cruise finishing at the end of January at Marseilles, when Sir Stafford will return to England. The right hon. gentleman has much benefited by the change and rest.

The funeral of the late Bishop of Llandaff took place at Llandaff on Thursday, the deceased prelate being buried in a grave adjoining that of his son, the founder of the school.

The Mayor and members of the Corporation, several hundreds of the clergy of the diocese, and county gentlemen.

The service in the cathedral, which was most impressive, was carried out by Bishop Perry, D.D., Canon Hawkins, Archdeacon Griffiths, and the Rev. E. A. Fishwick. Special hymns were sung, and at the grave the Burial Service was read by the Dean of Llandaff. There was a large attendance of the general public. Nearly all the shops in Cardiff were closed during the afternoon.

The remains of the late Dean Close were conveyed, on Thursday, from Penzance to Carlisle.

YULETIDE.

It is difficult to say when Christmas holidays begin; but as we have already had occasion to tell, all the arrangements for the present recurrence of them are in full swing. London is perhaps unusually full just now for the time of year, which may or may not be due to the exceptionally perfect specimens of winter weather which it has been having. The *Times* has been broken up in two, and given to the rest of the crew. This was about twenty minutes after the vessel struck. We were some distance away from her, and the captain sang out to us to try and get nearer; but as we had no oars or rudder, and as the current was carrying us away from the ship, it was impossible for us to do anything to save those who were in the ship. I would have been lost too, I believe, if I had not tied the painter round me. Lees, the other man, was a person of quite enough originality to invent it, it is not probable that he did. But foggy days have been so black in Lord Bathurst's time that they are now, and people in those days were certainly not so subject to depression." Depression and despair, however, are incompatible, at any rate in men and their relations for a short time at least. On Rochester's principles it is satisfactory to reflect that if Londoners have been made somewhat uncomfortable by fog, people in Edinburgh have been made more than uncomfortable by frost. Frost is in one way good for holidays, because of its connection with skating; but it produces widespread misery among the poorer classes, and it interferes with everyone's comfort in cities, though not in the country. We are not indeed in the days when horses used to bring home postmen frozen to the saddle and dead, with the letter-bags hanging to them, but no one even in those days could have had a much more miserable experience than the *tricky* travellers who were then driven up to a *Wainwright* in the fog. In London one is not liable to that experience; from frozen pipes, water obtained at so much a bucket from the end of the street, impassable streets and frozen-out gardeners, are sufficient evils to most people.

Christmas weather is so closely connected with Christmas holidays that it is difficult not to think of the one in thinking of the other, even if the experience of habitually breakfasting and occasionally lunching by gaslight were not present with most of us. But sunlight fortunately for a not inconsiderable portion of mankind is not absolutely necessary for holiday-making. Indeed, in the Arctic regions people are supposed to make the time of darkness their special amusement, probably because they have nothing else to do. That can scarcely be said of most busy Englishmen. But the circumstances of modern times are rather in favour of holiday-making in bad weather. To be able to move long distances in tolerable security from skyey influences is a considerable advantage, and to have a variety of indoor places of amusement is another. Every year we are told that pantomime is going to die, and every year it gives more room and greater variety to a larger number of theatre-keepers. Every year the national collections of art and science (starved as they are by greediness to be given richly) are varied, and more interesting than it can be confessed that it is not easy to see them through the fog. The "old favourites of the public" in the way of entertainments hold their ground for the most part, and plenty of new ones come to take rank beside them. Indeed, the only Englishman I have ever seen that would have been unable to do so, or that would have been unable to do so, is the *Times* editor, who, though he has been a good man, is not a good editor.

1. Sir Edward states, towards the end of that article, that "it stands recorded in the report of the officer who commanded the Royal Marine Light Infantry forming the left of the leading brigade of the First Division that that brigade, after broad daylight, was still at a considerable distance (that report says 1,200 yards) from the enemy's entrenchments." Being the officer in command of the Royal Marines, I naturally referred to the report I forwarded to the Admiralty—*I have been unable to see the one I sent*. Major-General Graham, however, records that "the expression 'broad daylight' is not quite correct. The expression 'broad daylight' is used to denote the time when the sun is high in the sky, and not 'after broad daylight,' as quoted." This description is corroborated in a private letter I wrote to a brother officer (which letter, to my great annoyance, at once found its way into several of the London and local papers), wherein I speak of the time as being "just as dawn began to break"—a very great difference, and one which allowed a sufficient margin for time for the brigade to reach the entrenchments, instead of after broad daylight.

2. I formed my battalion into what Sir Edward speaks of (perhaps somewhat scornfully) as the "order of attack," because, as we had been discovered by the enemy and were then under heavy fire, it would have been otherwise to have got into the line by taking the line instead of the more extended and consequently safer formation of attack. This formation was practically similar to that adopted by Sir Edward himself, with this exception—that instead of each battalion having its own reserve, Colonel Ashburnham's brigade formed a reserve to the whole line in front of them. The disadvantage of which was that so many men were required to be got into the line, and the whole line was exposed to the fire of the enemy. This statement is only partially correct. We advanced in attack formation at the "double, taking up the 'quick' once or twice to let the men to get their breath, and it was not until the fighting line was within some 100 yards of the enemy that I ordered the men to halt, to fire bayonets, and to form the supports to reinforce it, and the whole to advance by rushes. By thus keeping the line in movement the fire of the enemy was to a great extent diverted, and it permitted the reinforcement by the reserve to take place with fewer casualties than would otherwise have been sustained.

4. We certainly had not the advantage to have a "prepared naval officer" to guide our division, but that important duty was performed by two very efficient officers, Lieutenant-General Willis, who commanded the division, and Captain Holbache, Brigade-Major to Major-General Graham. It was only for the last few minutes, when General Willis was temporarily absent and Captain Holbache had been called away by the Brigadier, to correct one of those "little" derangements" in the right of the line which (Sir Edward says) illustrate "the precarious nature of such an operation," that our line lost some of its true direction, owing to the start being obscured by passing clouds and by the change of dawn.

5. Sir Edward describes our advance towards the enemy as being by "short rushes, and after each rush lying down to fire." This statement is only partially correct. We advanced in attack formation at the "double, taking up the 'quick' once or twice to let the men to get their breath, and it was not until the fighting line was within some 100 yards of the enemy that I ordered the men to halt, to fire bayonets, and to form the supports to reinforce it, and the whole to advance by rushes. By thus keeping the line in movement the fire of the enemy was to a great extent diverted, and it permitted the reinforcement by the reserve to take place with fewer casualties than would otherwise have been sustained.

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7. Lastly, Sir Edward, to test the question upon whom fell the brunt of the fighting, requests any one interested to refer to the list of casualties of the Second Division and compare them with those of other bodies of troops. I cannot speak of what losses other regiments of the First Division sustained, as I have no data at hand to which to refer; but as the battalion of Royal Marine Light Infantry lost 16 officers and men wounded, and 48 men killed, I think that, so far as this particular unit of the First Division was concerned, it had a share of the fighting which suffered most in the Second Division.

8. The British Association.—At a conference

of the members of the British Association, held at the apartments of the Geological Society, Burlington House, a memorial to the Council of the Association, was adopted setting forth that at the meeting of the general committee at which the resolution to meet in Canada in 1881 was carried, a previous resolution to the same effect, but for the year 1883, for which an invitation had been

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Great Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 24—25, 1882.

PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR AT OXFORD.

The English people follow with so close an interest the successive stages in the education and development of the youthful members of the Royal Family that they will not receive with indifference the announcement that Prince Albert Victor of Wales is about to keep his terms at Oxford. He is to matriculate after the Christmas Vacation, and a house has already been taken for himself and his suite. He will probably pass the greater portion of a year in the first of English Universities, and though any degree he may accept will only be honorary, he is likely to gather a certain amount of experience which is worth having. Whether he will bring to his academic residence the studious tastes and capacities of his uncle the Duke of Albany remains to be seen. His career thus far has been of an unusually active kind, and his preparatory training that, not of a scholar, but of a sailor. It is given to few undergraduates to have seen as much of the world as the young Prince when he begins his Oxford life may reflect that he has done. The circumnavigation of the globe, an acquaintance with every climate and every country, some knowledge—however superficial—of the chief Colonies and Dependencies of Great Britain, are seldom achieved by youths of seventeen. Prince Albert Victor of Wales will not have completed his eighteenth year till the 8th of January next, and so far as rapid and extensive locomotion can render him one, he may claim to be a citizen of the world. It may be said, perhaps, that the experience he has thus acquired is not thorough or deep enough to be of any great value. That, we would remark, depends mainly on his own qualifications to profit from the opportunities he has enjoyed, and if report speaks truly, the young Prince is quick to learn and slow to forget. He will secure the same sort and degree of insight into Oxford as he has into many other places. It would be affection to say that he will become as well acquainted with the University and its life as if he were a Non-Resident Undergraduate. That is, in the nature of things, impossible. He will, we suppose, inscribe his name on the books of Christ Church, but he will not live in College, and he will not be in a position to select his own associates. Yet when he leaves the University he will carry away with him memories of dinner parties, at which heads of houses, academic and urban magnates, fellows, and tutors have predominated; over guests who are in *status pupillari*; of some learned and of more purely fashionable conversation, of many gallops with foxhounds, of not a few rows on the river, of afternoons at Bulstrode and Cowley Marsh, and of picnics in Nuneham Woods. University life must, in fact, be to the Royal Prince, who can at best only play at being an ordinary Undergraduate, not unlike what it is to a visitor at Commencement time. The place will wear to him an aspect of perpetual holiday. If his tastes are for books, he will be able to indulge them: if they are for other things he will not be compelled to do violence to them. The Oxford of to-day, of which Prince Albert Victor will make the acquaintance, is different in almost every respect from that which was known to his father. It is now rather more than twenty years since the Prince of Wales was one of the *alumni* of the University. The Heir Apparent did not probably carry away with him a more intimate knowledge of the true existence and *ethos* of Oxford than is likely to be acquired by his son. But the broad impressions which he derived of it will possess little in common with those that will communicate themselves to the lad who in the ordinary course of events will some day be King of England. Christ Church itself is not what it was a couple of decades since. It is less of a luxurious academic lounge for young men of wealth, of pleasure, or of birth, and more a home, if not of study, of vigorous activity of some kind or other. The whole life of Oxford has become more tense and earnest; the means of communication between the city and the outer world have largely increased; the points of contract between it and the rest of England have been multiplied. The Oxford of mediævalism has disappeared, and the modern Oxford has taken its place. A new University Commission has completed its work of transformation. There are fresh Professorships and Readerships. The University has become a teaching as well as an examining body; the old Collegiate societies have been broken up by the limitation of "Prize Fellowships" to a seven years' tenure, and by the innovation of the married "Don"; the High-street is connected with some Town by a tramway, and the parks are full of governors, nursemaids, and perambulators. These things are only the outward and visible signs of a far greater revolution which has been accomplished. In feelings, in ways of thought, and to a large extent, in manner of life, resident Oxford is now little more than a reflection, and even a suburb, of London. Oxford Fellows, Tutors, and Lecturers live almost as much in Pall-mall and Piccadilly as they do under the shadow of the dome of the Bodleian. This change of *régime* is at once an advantage and a disadvantage to the University. On the one hand, the sympathy between Oxford and the outside

world is closer than ever, and the famous city on the Isis is in the enjoyment of a more cosmopolitan fame; on the other hand, Oxford has lost a great deal of her traditional *cachet*, which we might well wish to have seen preserved. In a well-known passage, written less than a quarter of a century since, Mr. Matthew Arnold apostrophised the University of which he is an ornament as the last lingering place of Mediævalism. This she can scarcely be considered at the present day—though, perhaps, for the sufficient reason that the genus of Mediævalism is extinct. When Dr. Arnold saw the first steam-engine which ever violated the classic shades of Rugby, he remarked, "It is a hideous thing: but it is well, for its snortings toll the death-knell of the Middle Ages." Mediæval Oxford survived for more than twenty years this aggressive irruption of the modern spirit in its most material shape; but the limits of that survival have been reached, and the modern spirit is ubiquitously triumphant.—Standard.

PROFESSOR PALMER'S MURDERERS.

The Admiralty have received information which leaves little room for doubt that the murderers of Professor Palmer will be brought to justice. Captain Stephenson, whose ship has been cruising along the coast of the district in which Professor Palmer and his companions met their fate, has obtained news of the capture of the principal criminal, the actual assassin of Palmer and of another of the party. The Arab sheikh who is pledged to hunt down the murderers is confident that, although operations have been delayed by the rains which have enabled the Bedouins to show fight in the mountains, the whole of the guilty hand will be in custody early in the new year. Colonel Warren, whose knowledge of the country and the people is beyond question, has undertaken to examine the prisoners and to inquire into the circumstances of the crime. It is necessary that this investigation should be conducted in an impartial spirit. Deeply aware of the loss of a man so versatile and varied in his accomplishments as was Professor Palmer is to be deplored, generously as the State he nobly volunteered to risk his life in serving his country and to honour his memory it must not be forgotten that he and his comrades in a daring enterprise encountered risks of which they were not unaware. Professor Palmer, Capt. Gill, and Lieutenant Charrington knew that they carried their lives in their hands when they entered upon their patriotic adventure. They engaged themselves not only in a war, but in a war carried on by semi-barbarous tribes. The purchase of beasts of burden for the British army and the attempt to induce the Bedouins to maintain a sort of neutrality during the struggle in Egypt were blows struck at the position of Arabi. It was to be expected that efforts would be made to strike back again. The measure of guilt of the Bedouins implicated in the murder of Professor Palmer and his party depends mainly upon the facts to be ascertained by Colonel Warren. If the English adventurers had been merely attacked and had lost their lives in defending themselves against capture, it would be difficult to treat their assailants as guilty of murder. But so far as we are yet acquainted with the facts of this case, it appears that Professor Palmer, at all events, was a prisoner when he was treacherously slain, and even the least civilised of Bedouins acknowledge that the killing of prisoners, recognised as such, is a grievous offence against the most elementary laws of war.—Times.

The Secretary of the Admiralty has addressed the following communication to the Press:—A telegram has been received from Captain Stephenson, of H.M.S. *Carysfort*, dated the 20th of December, from Suez, stating that Shedide reports from desert that he has captured Ali Showeyer Terebin, who shot (Professor) Palmer, also Salim Abu Telbida. (Colonel) Warren has been left for Naek to examine these murderers; will be away some days; does not think Shedide will get remainder of people for at least a fortnight, but will in time get all. Shedide has taken possession of all waters, but rains enabled Bedouins to show fight from mountains. Sheikhs of Terebin have bound themselves in writing to assist in capture of all implicated.

CHRISTMAS, 1882.

Christmas has again come round. We are reminded of the fact by Christmas cards, Christmas numbers of illustrated papers, Christmas boxes of sweets, Christmas hampers of game, and cases of wine, and other such souvenirs of the season. The weather, it is true, has not fully justified the expectations which we were led to have of it, but the coldness of the winter has been relieved by a series of slopy, foggy, and glutinous character. The pavements have been covered with a sludge of about the consistency of axle grease. The roadways have been ankle-deep in mire. The air has been so thick with fog as to suggest the possibility of cutting a slice out of it with a knife sufficiently strong, and carrying the specimen home for purposes of analysis and investigation. Twenty or thirty years ago the weather was somewhat more accustomed to follow the ordinary laws of nature. There was always snow at winter time, and a decent allowance of frost. Those who enjoyed skating could get it to their heart's desire. The roads and pathways were frozen hard, and made walking pleasant. The air was fresh and crisp. Everybody seemed the better for the cold. It exercised a general influence. It made one think of cod-fish, and oysters in the barrel, and turkeys, and fat geese, and collars of brown, and woodcock, and snipe, and other such Christmas dainties—trophies which every man who was not a confirmed misanthrope used to hang up in order that old customs might be religiously followed out, and old remembrances kept alive. No one, in those days, did anything at Christmas time. There were no letters; there were next to no newspapers; and people lived in a happy, dreamy, lotos-eating kind of state. To understand those times we must read the "PICKWICK PAPERS," and endeavour to realise for ourselves the conditions of existence to which they point. It is not so many years since the "PICKWICK PAPERS" were written, and yet all the circumstances of life have changed. Mail coaches have disappeared. There are no more road-side inns or turnpike gates or post chaises. If we look through the "PICKWICK PAPERS" from cover to cover we shall find many allusions to brandy and water and to cigars and to the comforts of road-side hostels. And we shall nowhere find allusion to a telegraphic message, or a daily paper, or a railway, or

a club in the modern sense of that term. Our whole existence, for better or for worse, has been entirely changed since the "PICKWICK PAPERS" were first written. The present Christmas is incomplete in many ways. There have been accidents and misfortunes. No one can pretend to be thoroughly satisfied with the condition of affairs. At any moment a European war may break out. In Ireland we are only holding our own by the sternest and strongest proof of what can be done when a Government is obliged, in self-defence, to resort to extreme measures. Nor has the year been altogether prosperous. Every class of the community is complaining. Trade is slack, business is bad, long accounts are outstanding, there is a general stagnation. It is the habit of an Englishman to balance his books towards the approach of Christmas. The process this year can hardly have been a pleasant one. Almost everywhere is the same story. Things have been unfortunate. Times have been hard. And the only thing to be done is to wait patiently for a change, and to hope that it may come quickly. Matters will be better with the new year; and we must forget the past, and look forward to such promise as lies in the future. For many of us Christmas will have but little of its taint of the past, and its promise of the future. Landlords who are receiving no rent can hardly entertain their friends, or keep open house. Means which are now narrowed do not permit of festivity. Indeed, to tell the truth, the Christmas which is coming is not such a one as Dickens would have cared for, or have welcomed. We must make the best of it, such as it is. But to pretend that it is a good, old-fashioned Christmas, of the good, old-fashioned type, would be simply to deceive our own souls. And yet our Christmas need not be in any way a season for regret. We can enjoy it in our own fashion, and as our circumstances permit. Old memories are to be recalled, old friends to be remembered, old associations to be awakened. Any occasion is pleasant which brings friends and relations together. And, without affectation, Christmas is a time when the larger and more simple truths of the Christian faith come home to us. It is a time to forget and to forgive; a time to think kindly of those who have passed away; to feel charitably towards those with whom we have differed; to put the best construction upon the acts of others; to blot out the memory of old disputes; to revive old friendships; and generally to look at things from their best possible side. A Christmas thus spent cannot but be a happy one. We may miss many of its old features—those on which Dickens so loved to dwell. There will be no frost and snow, no mail coaches, no skating, and no yule log. There will, possibly, be a less allowance than usual of turkeys, and collars of brawn, and hampers of good things. Strained times cannot but make them seem less. But there need not be the less good-will, or the less happiness. We shall be sitting together waiting for the sunrise. The new year will soon be upon us. It is full of hope and of promise. When things are at their worst, it is the one time of all to expect them to change for the better. And the Christmas of 1882 must be one in which we look to the future rather than to the past. It may well be that the years which have gone by have been somewhat too prosperous; that we have been to rich, and too self-contented. If so, we have had a sharp and severe lesson, and we shall be none the worse for it. As we tomorrow gather round our hearths, we shall do best to think of the work that lies before us to be done; of the kingdoms that are to be won; of the dragons that are to be killed; of the wastes that are to be reclaimed; of the names that are to be made. We can look forward into a time not yet arrived when our children will be thinking of us as we are now thinking of those who have passed away, and we can resolve that, in so far as in us lies, their road shall be made clear and their hands strengthened to bear that burden of life which, heavy as it is, has yet its own pleasures and its own glimpses of happiness.—Observer.

Egypt.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Times* telegraphed on Sunday:—

The *Moniteur* published to-day a decree whereby Arabi, Toulli, Abd-el-Mahmed, Sami, Ali Fehmi, and Yacob Sami are degraded from all their other titles, rank, and honours. This decree will be read publicly in their presence, as well as in the mosques. Another decree is to be published to-morrow, dealing with the remaining criminals. Suleiman Sami and Moussa Akad will be exiled to Massowah, others will be condemned to various terms of imprisonment, others released upon heavy bail, and the rest annealed.

Systematic attempts are being made to bring the Khedive into contempt by telegraphing from this capital news not only without the smallest foundation, but the exact reverse of the fact. It has been stated that the Khedive accepted reluctantly the resignation of Riaz, because he wished to record his disapprobation of the verdict in Arabi's trial. As a matter of fact, the resignation, though it had long been threatened, was a complete surprise. It was handed in by the Minister's son personally to the Khedive, who, instead of simply rejecting the document, at once accepted the resignation, though with natural expressions of regret. It was only when it was communicated to Sherif that he very properly stated that the Ministers must be consulted before its definite acceptance. The question as to the other Ministers retiring caused a delay of one day; after which it became a *fait accompli*. If, therefore, the Khedive committed any error at all, it was that of a too prompt acceptance.

Again, it is stated that an anti-English article in the native paper, the *Wattan*, was inspired from the *Times*. The smallest knowledge of ancient facts would have shown the absurdity of this idea; while the amusement perplexity of the Khedive at the time when his libelled allies refused to allow him to crush the offending paper, was a matter of public remark.

Eight hundred cavalry and four hundred infantry, forming part of the gendarmerie, were to-day passed in review before the Khedive by Baker Pacha. This first instalment of the new force presented a very satisfactory appearance; and, considering the short time during which the men have been enrolled, their smartness reflects the highest credit on Baker Pacha and Col. Syrge.

NEWS FROM INDIA.

The Calcutta correspondent of the *Times* telegraphed on Sunday:—

At the latest meeting of the Indian Legislative Council, Mr. Hope moved that the report of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the Decan Agriculturists' Relief Act, 1879, be taken into consideration. He said that he did not think it was necessary to trouble the Council with any lengthy remarks at that time, as he had already on two previous occasions given a somewhat full explanation of the objects which this Bill proposed

to secure, and he had subsequently also explained the modifications which the Select Committee proposed to make. A complete statement of those modifications would be found in the report of the Select Committee, which was just printed, and he did not think that any speech of his would make much of a difference. The changes which had been made in the Act, and the facts which had made those changes necessary, he would only say that the Committee had done their best to give effect to the suggestions made by the local Government, which was a great extent, in a local Bill of this nature, best qualified to decide on small details; and they had also given their most careful consideration to the whole of the suggestions contained in the communications and memorials which had been received from the outside public. After certain amendments had been discussed, the Bill was

passed.

The very serious and important questions raised by the Bengal Rent Bill have excited a bitter controversy between the partisans of the zamindars and those of the ryots, and at the present time preoccupy public attention, to the complete exclusion of all other political measures. This state of things becomes at once intelligible when it is remembered that the population in India is almost entirely rural, and is dependent for subsistence and income, either immediately or immediately, upon the cultivation of the soil. Consequently, every suggestion for legislative interference with the existing rights of landed property sends an immediate sympathetic vibration throughout the whole social system, and is apt to excite expectations and forebodings of a very disturbing character. This is true of India generally; but it has especial significance in relation to Bengal, where a large proportion of the landholders have purchased their estates in the open market at exorbitant rates, upon a high calculation of price, based upon the implicit belief in the absolute and unchangeable character of the *Permanent Settlement*, and sanctioned by the Government, apparently for the whole duration of the British rule. The Bill now under consideration is challenged by the zamindars as a very serious invasion of existing rights of property, and as direct and flagrant violation of the covenanted principles of the *Permanent Settlement*. The issue raised is momentous, and has naturally excited a considerable amount of irritable susceptibility.

Especial acerbity has, however, been lately imported into the controversy by the Minute which has been printed and circulated by the Secretary to the Government of India in the Home Department—who was formerly a member of the recent Commission. The writer professes to answer some remarks of the Chief Justice of Bengal which I had occasion to mention in a former despatch, and at the same time seeks to evade responsibility for his language by printing the words "Not for publication" on the top of his minute. It is, however, on the face of it puerile for a salaried public official to attempt to contend that he is in liberty to publish by circulating it a document dealing with a question of public policy, and then to seal up Press comment and to avoid public criticism by so transparent a device. As a literary production, the minute is, though ambitious in style, of little or no value. It throws no new light of any importance upon the main question at issue. The position of the writer, as one of the confidential secretaries of the Government, and the tone of the language in which the minute is couched are equally entitled to public notice, and explain the feeling of strong and unswayed indignation which its circulation has caused. The leading Calcutta journal styles it "a securior attack on the Chief Justice." To be appreciated in its full significance, the document should be read in its integrity. I regret that from want of space I can only call a few selected flowers of rhetoric from this choice garland of invective.

Sir Richard Garth is twitted with being "an elderly London lawyer" and is contemptuously styled "the Archangel of the Court." He is further described as "the practising barrister who, having a rotten case to defend and not being up in his briefs, has taken refuge in abuse of his opponents." It is further stated that the Judges of his court will probably feel no more grateful to him for this his last contribution to the rent controversy in Bengal than they have already shown themselves with reference to his previous publications. The leading Calcutta journal styles it "a securior attack on the Chief Justice." To be appreciated in its full significance, the document should be read in its integrity. I regret that from want of space I can only call a few selected flowers of rhetoric from this choice garland of invective.

The NEW ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL OF WESTMINSTER.—The *Times* says it would seem that there is at length some prospect of the erection of this long-contemplated edifice, which Cardinal Wiseman set his heart—being realized under his successor, Cardinal Manning. It is only just and right, however, to say that when urged, on such an occasion, to take steps for inaugurating such a work, Cardinal Manning steadily refused to do so, saying that he would be content without a sumptuous edifice of the kind as long as there was a want of schools to receive the little ones of his flock. Even this result he has not yet obtained, though year by year he is able to boast he has done something towards overtaking the deficiency. Some six or eight years ago, however, the site for the intended cathedral—about two acres and a half—between Vauxhall Bridge-road and Victoria-street, was purchased, with a view to future building operations; and Mr. Henry Clutton was even commissioned to make a design for the cathedral, which was planned to be a subordinate Government official with coarse and contumelious reproaches, and said he would not be able to do so, saying that he would be content without a sumptuous edifice of the kind as long as there was a want of schools to receive the little ones of his flock. Even this result he has not yet obtained, though year by year he is able to boast he has done something towards overtaking the deficiency. Some six or eight years ago, however, the site for the intended cathedral—about two acres and a half—between Vauxhall Bridge-road and Victoria-street, was purchased, with a view to future building operations; and Mr. Henry Clutton was even commissioned to make a design for the cathedral, which was planned to be a subordinate Government official with coarse and contumelious reproaches, and said he would not be able to do so, saying that he would be content without a sumptuous edifice of the kind as long as there was a want of schools to receive the little ones of his flock. Even this result he has not yet obtained, though year by year he is able to boast he has done something towards overtaking the deficiency. Some six or eight years ago, however, the site for the intended cathedral—about two acres and a half—between Vauxhall Bridge-road and Victoria-street, was purchased, with a view to future building operations; and Mr. Henry Clutton was even commissioned to make a design for the cathedral, which was planned to be a subordinate Government official with coarse and contumelious reproaches, and said he would not be able to do so, saying that he would be content without a sumptuous edifice of the kind as long as there was a want of schools to receive the little ones of his flock. Even this result he has not yet obtained, though year by year he is able to boast he has done something towards overtaking the deficiency. Some six or eight years ago, however, the site for the intended cathedral—about two acres and a half—between Vauxhall Bridge-road and Victoria-street, was purchased, with a view to future building operations; and Mr. Henry Clutton was even commissioned to make a design for the cathedral, which was planned to be a subordinate Government official with coarse and contumelious reproaches, and said he would not be able to do so, saying that he would be content without a sumptuous edifice of the kind as long as there was a want of schools to receive the little ones of his flock. Even this result he has not yet obtained, though year by year he is able to boast he has done something towards overtaking the deficiency. Some six or eight years ago, however, the site for the intended cathedral—about two acres and

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NICE 4-15, QUAI MASSENA.

Great Britain.
LONDON, DECEMBER 25-26, 1882.

PRINCE KRAPOTKIN.

The search among Prince Krapotkin's papers has, it is stated, led to the discovery of documents comprising some of the highest personages in Russia, including members of the Imperial family. Prince Krapotkin, indeed, is a revolutionist of such distinguished rank that his arrest will be regarded for the moment as the most striking, if not the most important, incident in the struggle between the French Government and the Anarchists. In personal character he stands far above M. Rochefort, the most prominent and perhaps the least scrupulous, of French Intransigents, whilst, if he were disposed to rely on the *prestige* of birth, he would certainly have precedence of Herr von Vollmar, the Parliamentary apologist of the German Social Democrats. It is needless to say that he is an exile from his fatherland. There has, indeed, been more than once a question whether the remnant of the Russian autocracy would not attempt to follow him to the lands where he found asylum. But political persecution and social ostracism have only fed the flame of his enthusiasm. In his wanderings hither and thither he has preached with all the vehemence, and we may even believe with the pure ardour of a Crusader, the Social War against Kings and Governments. At Geneva he found kindred spirits of all nations, and drew round him from afar the most fiery apostles of the doctrine of subversion. But he discovered at last that there were limits even to the toleration which the Government of the Confederation allows to the dreamers who became conspirators. The sanction which Prince Krapotkin gave by his words and writings to criminal modes of agitation, the direct incitements to civil war in other States of which he was guilty, compelled the Swiss authorities to expel him. By grace of the French Ministry he was permitted to find refuge in France, and for a time it was hoped that he would not abuse the hospitality accorded to him. But, if the charges on which he is to be tried are at all well founded, he has added to the offence of plotting against the peace of a foreign country that of gross ingratitude and deliberate breach of faith. He is charged, according to the vague formula of the French law, with being a member of an Association composed of foreigners and citizens of the Republic, whose object was to destroy the existing social state by means of assassination and pillage. But the second charge is at once more precise and more serious, for it is alleged that he was himself the prime instigator and organiser of the Society in France, and that he had, in fact, come to Lyons to take part in secret meetings with a view to fomenting insurrection. Revolution and its methods are the same all the world over. The agitators declare war against Governments, and then raise shrill cries of outraged right when Governments take precautionary or retaliatory measures. Prince Krapotkin's house had been searched by the police a few days before he was himself arrested. The journals which represent his party then protested against this intrusion as a shameful infringement of domicile. Now that the police allege that the papers found during the visit of the gendarmes furnish them with ample ground for the accusations made against him, his friends ask us to believe that nothing incriminating was really discovered, and that the charge is made only to give retrospective justification to their vexatious inquisition. We shall certainly not assume that the French agents of repression were right in all they did; but we shall not disbelieve merely because Prince Krapotkin's sympathisers deny.—*Standard*.

AN ANTI-ENGLISH LEAGUE.

Noting the formation of an Anti-English League in Paris, the *Daily Telegraph* says: — This remarkable movement is doubtless meant by its promoters to be taken seriously—as seriously as the agitation by a select body of Irish patriots engaged in the manufacture of frieze to punish the oppressing Saxon by using only Irish cloth and tabooing English goods. In other words, the entire business smacks strongly of the "shop" of patriotic pretext to cloak purely selfish interests. The too-famous Cobden-Rouher Treaty of 1860 was, we are angrily reminded, a fresh proof of the ingrained perfidy of Britain. It was a transaction all on one side, thanks to the frank nature of Napoleon III. and the all too confiding character of his simple-minded Minister. France "opened a large and generous market to English produce," but England would not reciprocate, preferring to remain shut up within her barriers of notoriously hostile tariffs and trade exclusiveness. Warning to their men after these instructive renderings of modern history, the Leaguers formulate their demands—the status quo in Egypt, energetic action in defence of French interests in the various regions

already named, the creation of a subventioned trading fleet, which could be converted into war cruisers when wanted, the levying of differential home harbour dues, and a revision of the clauses in the Treaty of Paris which safeguard cargoes in neutral vessels and forbid privateering. This very pleasant programme is, so to say, served up hot with appropriate reminders of old rivalries which had been effaced by time, but which are now revived in French hearts, and by appeals to all that is national and patriotic for support in the crisis. We greatly fear that if this movement is to be treated asine it must be defined as "the shop, shoppy." It has the true Protectionist flavour from beginning to end; the voice may be that of the Milan Decree, but the hands are those of the cotton and woolen manufacturer, the ironfounder, and the bountiful-fed shipowner. None but men nursed and swaddled in Protectionism could so exclusively look at one side of a question, and with such perfect unconsciousness falsify the facts of history. Who but an economic heresiarch of this type would regard the prodigious addition to the trade between France and England in the last twenty-two years as a sacrifice of the former for the benefit of the latter, as all gain to England, as a generous concession by France, without any reward or hope of it? The sages of this League profess to think that France by the arrangements of 1860 opened up a new market for English goods, but got nothing in return. Apparently they do not even yet know that all trade is an affair of partners, and that France could not have taken such quantities of her neighbour's products unless she had been able to pay for them by her own. And what of these return products—what of the countless thousands of gallons of wine, the millions of poultry, the billions of eggs and potatoes, the piles of beet-root sugar, the hecatombs of cattle, the masses of fruit, hops, grain? What, too, of the invasion of silks, which started out the Spitalfields weaver, and of ribbons which beggared Coventry? The plain truth is that the unexampled prosperity of the French agricultural population—that very population which the native manufacturers desires to keep as a preserve for easily bagging extortions profits to himself—is a direct result of the Treaty of 1860, which the records of the new-born League have the audacity to call one-sided—a mere "plant" on the part of England, and a sacrifice into which France was tricked. It was this prosperity which paid the cost of the war of 1870 and bought out the German Social Democrats. It is needless to say that he is an exile from his fatherland. 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MILITARY RIOTS.

A serious riot took place on Christmas day between the men of the Enniskillens and Buffs quartered in Canterbury. Nearly 200 men were for an hour engaged in a fierce encounter with belts and bayonets. Many were injured, and one man in the Enniskillens had his head laid open. The riot was quelled by some non-commissioned officers rushing into the melee just as one excited fellow had gone to the assistance of his comrades with a fixed bayonet. Extra-guards were mounted, and all the men are confined to barracks.

On Sunday night a riot, which at one time threatened to have serious consequences, occurred between civilians and soldiers at Denmark-street, Limerick. The civilians attacked the military, and a free fight ensued, the rioters using their belts to effect. The number of civilians had increased however, the military were badly handled. Eventually the police came on the scene, dispersed the rioters, and restored order.

PUBLIC DEGRADATION OF THE EGYPTIAN PRISONERS.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphed on Monday night:—

This afternoon, at half-past two, the seven principal political prisoners were summoned to undergo public degradation. The prisoners all showed themselves extremely nervous, especially Touiba, who visibly shivered with fear. None of their English friends were present to reassure them and to convince them that they were not being led into the torture, which more than once threatened to apprehend. Arab, Mahmoud, Samsi, and Mahomed Samsi were brought up in the first carriage, followed by Abdallah, Ali Fehmy, Touiba, and Mahmoud Fehmy in the second. They were escorted by mounted police with drawn swords. In spite of the extreme secrecy observed, the inhabitants were grouped along the road, and a considerable crowd had gathered at the gates of the Kasr-el-nik Barracks. For the most part the onlookers presented the silent habitual to an Egyptian crowd. Here and there, however, there was a mur mur, "C' est de l' heu there." In the third carriage the innermost—court of the Barracks, drawn up in columns on the right, were the new Gendarmerie. On the left were the regular Infantry. Almost the whole of the existing army force in Egypt, except the Cavalry, may be said to have been present.

A few English officers, accompanied by Consul Moore, as the representative of Lord Dufferin, were grouped in the court. The galleries of the first floor barracks were filled with British officers with a few ladies. Immediately after their arrival the Prisoners were led into the open space between the columns of troops, and a ring was formed round them, the subordinate officers carrying naked swords.

The Under Secretary of State for War then advanced, and, after calling out the names of the Prisoners, read aloud the Khedivial Decree, that their rank and decor: types of every kind should be taken from them, and their names erased in perpetuity from the Egyptian Army List.

It was added that these decorations should be delivered immediately to the police. Mahmoud Samsi alone answered in acquiescence.

The officers then led the troopers in the cry, "Long live our Khedive," thrice repeated, after which the ring was broken.

The Prisoners were then led back to the carriages, at the steps of which an Egyptian major took the opportunity of remarking to them that they had run away from Egypt, and ought to have had their throats cut. Apart from this individual instance, no insult was offered to the Prisoners, nor was any evidence of hostile feeling given. As a matter of fact, the set of the Egyptian Revolutionary drama closed with a march past, the troops playing the Khedivial anthem. The Prisoners appeared to feel the manner of the degradation more than the actual deprivation which they suffered. They protested, nevertheless, against the assumption by the Khedive of the power to divest them of decorations conferred by the Sultan.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

Osborne, Monday.

The Queen and the Royal Family and the Royal Household attended Divine service at Osborne yesterday. The Rev. Canon Prothero officiated and preached the sermon. The Rev. Canon Prothero had the honour of being included in her Majesty's dinner party.

The Prince and Princess of Wales accompanied by Princes Albert Victor and George, Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud, and attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting, were present on Monday morning at Divine service in Sandringham Parish Church. The service was conducted by the Rev. F. Hervey, M.A., rector, Domestic Chaplain to the Prince of Wales, and Chaplain to the Queen, assisted by the Rev. J. N. Dalton, M.A., tutor to the young Prince.

The Duke and Duchess of Abercorn are surrounded by a family party at Baron's Court for Christmas.

The Duke and Duchess of Roxburghe and family are spending Christmas at Floors Castle. The Dowager Duchess is at Broomouth.

Lady Charles Wellesley who has been indisposed at her seat Conhol Park, Andover, is now much better and on a fair way to speedy restoration to health.

Mr. and Lady Agnes Scott have arrived at Boothby Hall, Grantham, for the winter, and have been entertaining last week for shooting, Lord and Lady Glamis, Hon. C. and Mrs. Bampfylde, Hon. W. Ponsonby, Mr. W. Vassour, Mr. St. John Gore, 5th Dragoon Guards, the Misses Welby, Miss Butterstone, Sir R. A. Brown, and Mr. Godfrey Power.

THE DECLINING CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL.

—Traces of the progress of the temperature movement may be seen in the records of home consumption of wine, beer, and beer this year. Enthusiastic supporters of the movement have been disposing of their wine barrels, and while the consumption of spirits has distinctly fallen off this year, the increase in the quantity of beer charged with Excise duty is small, when the steady growth of population is taken into account. Moreover, the beer duty is too new, having begun to operate in October, 1880, to allow a proper comparison over years. From the following comparison it may be learnt that the consumption of imported wine is nearly 8 per cent. less this year than last, and 9 per cent. less than in 1880; in imported spirits the decline is at the rate of 1 per cent. on last year; in home-made spirits, for which the returns are only made up for nine months, the decrease is 1 per cent. The following tabulation of results is from official data:—

HOME CONSUMPTION.

Wine (for eleven months) 1880. 1881. 1882.

gallons, 14,597,000 14,389,000 13,309,000

Spirits, for same period, 1881. 1882.

gallons, 7,567,000 7,364,000 7,289,000

Spirits, home (for eleven months) 1880. 1881. 1882.

gallons, 19,856,000 20,194,000 20,189,000

Beer charged with duty (for eleven months) 1880. 1881. 1882.

gallons, 20,185,000 20,563,000

Allowing for increase of population, the rate of decrease in the home consumption of spirituous liquors is very distinct indeed. It is also interesting to observe the remarkable growth of the consumption of tea at the same time. So far this year, compared with last, the growth has been at the rate of 3 per cent.; in coco it is 8 per cent. Were there any means of getting at the quantity of aerated waters consumed in place of alcohol similar results would no doubt appear. The figures available are these:—

HOME CONSUMPTION.

1880. 1881. 1882.

Tea (for eleven months) 146,886,000 148,308,000 152,797,000

Cocoa (for same period) 1881. 1882.

gallons, 9,863,000 10,278,000 11,113,000

The foregoing comparisons further help to strengthen the conviction that, happily, the will, not the power, to consume spirituous liquors is weaker in this country. From the standpoint of the mere financier it is instructive to find evidence that the diminished popular expenditure on alcohol does not imply a diminished spending power or a feeble hearing power of the part of the nation.

SIR HERBERT MACPHERSON.—On Saturday,

Sir Herbert Macpherson, V.C., K.C.B., com-

mander of the Indian Contingent in Egypt,

was presented with the freedom of Nicosia at

the academy of which he was educated.

The Provost made the presentation, and General Macpherson, in reply, paid a high compliment to the Indian troops, likening the Ghurkas to some of the Scotch regiments, having little bodies but big hearts.

The Indian army was never better fitted to maintain the prestige of the Empire. After the cere-

mony the General was entertained at a

CHRISTMAS IN THE PROVINCES.

ALDESHOT.—Christmas Day was celebrated

by the different regiments of cavalry and in-

fantry, batteries of artillery, troops and com-

panies of the Royal Engineers, Commissariat and Transport Corps, and the Army Corps

Cor., in a joyous and festive manner. Com-

manding officers authorised the issue of

donations from the regimental canteen to

their men in the shape of good substantial

dinner, with a reasonable proportion of the

usual accompaniments. In numerous in-

stances, more particularly among the cavalry,

these donations were supplemented by liberal

contributions from the officers themselves. At

dinner-time, the commanding officers, with the

troop and company officers, visited the

barrack-rooms, which were tastefully dec-

orated with evergreens, etc., and were re-

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NICE 1—15, QUAI MASSENA.

Great Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 28—27, 1882.

MR. GLADSTONE'S PROGRAMME.

With the ending of the year Mr. Gladstone may congratulate himself on having brought to a definite close the long-deferred task of Cabinet reconstruction. It is true that, even now, the office of Lord Privy Seal, which the Duke of Argyll resigned on the eve of the introduction of the Land Act, is still vacant; and that the total number of the members is thus less by one than it was when the Cabinet was first constituted in 1880. But two out of the three gaps which internal dissensions have made in the ranks have been filled up.

The Prime Minister has found an opportunity of divesting himself of the cares and responsibilities of the Chancellorship of the Exchequer; and though he resigns to Mr. Childers the management of finance at a time when little Budget glory is to be won, the new Chancellor will still find problems difficult enough to tax his ingenuity.

Of the fourteen original members of the Cabinet, only five—the Lord Chancellor, the Home Secretary, the Foreign Secretary, the First Lord of the Admiralty, and the President of the Board of Trade—have escape the touch of change.

Mr. Spencer is, it is true, still President of the Council; but both in the Cabinet and out of it his prime responsibility is that which attaches to the office he assumed last summer in Ireland. Among the organic changes in the Secret Council of Ministers the principal, indeed, is that by which—since Mr. Forster's retirement—the Lord-Lieutenant, instead of the Chief Secretary, represents the Irish Administration. Other alterations have been purely personal. The Earl of Kimberley passed from the Colonial Office chiefly, we may assume, to leave vacant for Lord Derby a place in which his antecedents and character would least preclude his acceptability and usefulness. And Lord Hartington, we may further believe, resigned the seals of the Indian Secretariate to Lord Kimberley, because he felt he would be more at home at the War Office than he has ever felt himself amid the unfamiliar intricacies of Indian questions. These shifts indicate no change in departmental policy. Lord Derby cannot remind the Colonial Governments and the servants of the Crown in South Africa with greater emphasis of language than his predecessor employed that it is the determination of the Mother country to minimise her responsibilities; nor is it probable that Lord Kimberley will attempt to check Lord Ripon in the impetuous course of liberalising change on which, with the sanction of Lord Hartington, he has set firm foot. The House of Commons will expect to find in Mr. Dodson, as Chancellor of the Duchy, the same respectable, painstaking official whom it has known so well as President of the Local Government Board. Thus the transposition of parts will not increase the deliberative force of the Cabinet as a whole. For any sign of a modification in policy, of diminution or increase in strength, we must look to the character of the Ministers who have for the first time been summoned to the Council Table—or, rather, to the influences which may be supposed to have determined their admission. Sir Charles Dilke will bring to the discharge of his new functions the energy and tact which made him a singularly successful Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; and if the Ministerial scheme for the extension of local self-government in the counties ever becomes law, the achievement will be due, we may be sure, as much to the share the President of the Local Government Board will have in moulding its provisions as in recommending them to the sanction of the House of Commons. His enthusiasm on the subject may have, in some degree, decided his place in the Cabinet, and it is worth noting, as a passing illustration of the delicacy with which, in a precariously-balanced Party, the principle of compensation has to be applied, that Lord Derby, in his final confession of faith, all but sneered at the idea that there was any importance in the reform for which Radicals are so terribly in earnest. The counter-check follows the check. When a Whig drag is applied to the wheels, a fresh Radical horse is put in the traces. What the resultant of these conflicting forces will be is an interesting problem in political dynamics. The time certainly has come when people who are not philosophers will expect to see work done; and as less than two months hence the machine will be at work again, the question is immediate and practical. Whatever the issue may be, Ministers can no longer plead the excuse of bad mechanism and adverse elements. Mr. Gladstone complained that under the old rules of the House of Commons he could not legislate. The Rules have been changed to suit his wishes. That was the work of the Autumn Session, and now, in the breathing time of the recess, the Cabinet has been taken in hand, the voids are filled, the weak places made strong. Every one admits that Mr. Gladstone has great forces at his command. How will he utilise them? That is the question which men who allow superstition no place in politics are asking. We know in part what the programme is already. The Queen's Speech in February next can tell us little that is not to be read in the Queen's Speech with which the session of "ruin and discomfiture" was opened. The great measures will be taken again from their pigeon-holes, and commanded to the care of Parliament. Proposals for Local Self-Government of Counties in

England and Wales, for the Reform of the Corporation of London will be hopefully made and sincerely pressed. The long arrears of Sessions even earlier than the last will be taken up. Commercial men will hear that the Bankruptcy Bill and that for the Consolidation and Amendment of the Patents Laws are really to be forced on; riparian proprietors and dwellers in lowlands will watch for the stages of the Bill for the Conservancy of Rivers and Prevention of Floods. The Criminal Code Bill will appear again to cheer the heart of Law Reformers. Nor, if the Cabinet yield to pressure from certain sections of their supporters, will projects end here. Mr. George Russell, for instance—who is by no means a fanatical believer in the legislative power of Parliament, even under the new Rules—graves suggests in a paper published in the forthcoming number of the *Fortnightly Review* that the Liquor Question should be disposed of as a detail of the County Government Measure, and that pending the extension of Household Suffrage to the Counties, a scheme for creating peasant proprietors and modifying the Game Laws should be sanctioned as a temporary boon to the agricultural labourers. The least that any one can hope for is that the Session shall really be devoted to the long-neglected needs of England and the hardly more regarded wants of Scotland.

THE SITUATION IN ZULULAND.

Our correspondent at Maritzburg says the *Daily News*, repeats the warning which he had previously given that the annexation of a large part of Zululand is probably about to take place. He urges that the War Office should not allow a single soldier to enter Zululand unless Colonel Curtis, the officer in command, has a distinct understanding of the purposes for which the force is required. The public are under the impression that the troops which are about to cross the Tugela are intended to act as an escort to Cetewayo, who in order to spare colonial susceptibilities will land on the Zulu coast. It seems incredible that it can be intended to employ these soldiers for any other object. It is, however, certain that sinister rumours of annexation are in circulation in Natal; and some colour of probability is given to these reports by the statement of our correspondent that Colonel Curtis is to act under the orders of Sir T. Shepstone. It is well known in the colony that for many years past Sir Theophilus has been in favour of establishing a native reserve under British authority in that portion of Zululand which immediately adjoins Natal, and it is of course quite possible that he may have induced the Colonial Office to accept his view and to authorise the annexation of the fine strip of fertile country which since the fall of Umlandi has been ruled by John Dunn. It is even consistent with recent reports that a larger slice of Zululand may be abstracted from Cetewayo's former possessions. We hope that there is no truth in these statements. The extension of British authority to the other side of the Tugela will be a source of weakness instead of strength to the dominions of the Crown in South Africa. None of the Zulu tribes have asked to be made British subjects. On the contrary, only a few months ago the great majority of the chiefs and headmen of John Dunn's district took part with other Zulu chiefs in asking the High Commissioner for the restoration of Cetewayo. Why should England be saddled with the odious responsibility of compelling the submission of a number of Zulus who are anxious to live under the government of their King? Moreover, such a proceeding on our part would be a direct violation of the pledge we made to the Zulus at the close of the war that we would not annex any portion of their country. To return Cetewayo to Zululand ostensibly as an act of justice, and at the same time to appropriate some of the most fertile districts of his kingdom, would be to create a permanent source of irritation and heartburning between ourselves and the Zulus. It would show that the Colonial Office had learnt nothing from the experience of the last few years, and that it was unable to perform an act of restitution without perpetuating injustice.

The following is the telegram referred to above:—*Maritzburg, Tuesday.*—Everything convinces me that the annexation of a large part of Zululand for the benefit of Natal is intended. The War Office should insist on not allowing a single man to enter Zululand without a distinct understanding respecting the purposes of the troops to be employed. Colonel Curtis acts under Sir Theophilus Shepstone, and may easily be misled, not knowing the language. I can see that there is an intention to allow cold water on Cetewayo's reception for the sake of justifying the partition of the country. The greatest mistake would be to obliterate the natural river boundary between Zululand and Natal. Unless action be taken quickly the thing will be done.

AUSTRIA AND HER CRITICS.

The manner in which Austria is sometimes referred to by ardent advocates of nationality theories shows a singular want of generosity. No doubt it is easy to ransack Austrian history and find abundance of proceedings which are by no means in harmony with the views current to-day, but this is as unfair as it is easy. Nations, like men, have to be judged with constant reference to their time and the standards of action then accepted. Another allowance has constantly to be made if we desire to be just. We have to remember that the whole code of national ethics is profoundly affected by the accidents of geography. For a nation like ourselves, shut in by the sea, it is easy to theorise about the treatment to be accorded to neighbours. The problem of national conduct becomes considerably more complicated when defensible frontiers have to be sought and diverse races and creeds have to be harmonised, under penalty of the obliteration of everything like organised government. We once had neighbours of a troublesome kind north of the Tweed, and a foreign critic judging our conduct according to new-fangled moralities might find it difficult to say wherein our treatment of them differed from that dealt out to Austria by troublesome tribes on her border. More recently we had Highland clans to deal with. Had they dwelt in Montenegro and been a thorn in the side of Austria while enthusiastic advocates expounded the beauty of the Ossianic poetry, we should probably have thought them very fine fellows and the Austrians very great tyrants. As we were on Saturday offering to give the land for the

factory.

we made no scruple of suppressing them. We did quite right, but let us try to remember that Austria has always had a dozen Irelands and Caledonias on hand, and has besides been compelled by the proximity of powerful and dangerous rivals to act with a vigour which is not required of us, even when a province proves recalcitrant. The nationalities that swarm on the Austrian frontiers or are in process of amalgamation with the Empire may have very amiable characteristics of their own, and may be very estimable and precious in the eyes of people with historical, ethnic, or religious theories to propagate. But the practical question for their neighbours is whether they constitute responsible States with it is possible to have regular relations. If they do, then it is a mistake from which Continental statesmen shrink to attempt their absorption. Switzerland maintains her independence simply because, aided by her position, she constitutes such a State. The Swiss to not satisfy the ordinary nationality tests. They do not speak one language and cannot be supposed to have sprung from one stock. But they form an entity among the nations with which orderly relations can be established, and they are consequently safe. The nationalities which Austria has absorbed, or is expected to absorb, do not satisfy this condition. Their race affinities may be anything that any ethnologist chooses to fancy, but the practical disability remains that they are not capable of forming a compact political entity whose orderly behaviour can be calculated upon. Therefore, the probability is that they will be absorbed, if not by Austria, then by some other Power. A nation or nationality that can stand on its own feet is a moros so very difficult of digestion that only some insane military adventurer, as a rule, thinks of touching it. A nationality that cannot do this often compels its neighbours to lay hands upon it, and to bring it under discipline and law. We have no doubt that the Austrian Government is unequivocally desirous of avoiding annexation, but we have just as little doubt that a great deal of annexation lies before it. Wallachs, Bulgars, Albanians, and Slavs of a dozen varieties are one and all incapable of forming strong and self-reliant States. To endow them with autonomy may be agreeable to theorists, and may even suit practical statesmen as a temporizing measure, but has no chance of producing an organization vigorous enough to hold its own. These races must come under the sway of some strong and well-organized State if they are to emerge from the chaos that now broods over the Balkan peninsula. That State must be either Austria or Russia, and as a matter of fact these two will divide the work. Austria cannot stop the southward movement of her great neighbour, but neither can she permit it to go uncheked. As the disintegration of the Turkish Empire goes on to its end, the balance of power between these two States must be practically settled. Both require outlets to the sea, and neither can afford to hold its hand when the other acts. If any one can produce a practical scheme for erecting a new State on constitutional principles which shall be able to withstand the double pressure, by all means let us have it. But theories about nationality and treaties creating autonomies will not serve the turn. No matter what ingenuity may be expended on these things, we shall sooner or later have to deal with both Austria and Russia as Mediterranean Powers, and our capacity for meeting them on equal terms will very greatly depend upon the wisdom and courage we display in utilizing the opportunity we now enjoy for securing our most important Mediterranean interests.—*Times*.

DEPARTURE OF ARABI FROM CAIRO.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphed on Tuesday afternoon:—

This afternoon the luggage of the prisoners was searched at their houses to prevent them from carrying away any title deeds, or money to the amount of over two hundred pounds. The search took place in the presence of English officers. On its completion the luggage was carried to Kasr-el-Nil, from which the prisoners will start at nine o'clock tonight for Suez. They will be accompanied by Mr. Napier, and Sir Charles Wilson will superintend their departure. The arrangements have been kept profoundly secret, and it is hoped that all will go off quietly.

LATER.

The prisoners' families arrived, as arranged, at Kasr-el-Nil, and a guard was placed in Barrack-square. A telegram had previously been received from Suez saying that owing to the rough weather it was impossible that the steamer could enter the harbour. General Dorman consequently countermanded the British guard, and Sir Charles Wilson proceeded at eight o'clock to the prison to prevent the removal of the prisoners, but the Zaptieh, with unusual alacrity, had already escorted them to the point from which they were to start.

Sir Charles Wilson following, found the Egyptian guard preparing for the departure of the prisoners, having received no contrary orders. Everybody in the town was in an uproar. The steamer had been delayed, and Sir Charles Wilson decided that they should start, especially as it appeared likely that the Suez telegraph was about to disperse the crowds and to establish at the intermediary stations. Further delay was caused by the weather, which the sentries over Arabi's house had prevented his family from leaving. Mr. Cameron and the Police delegate started immediately to release the ladies, who arrived at half-past ten, soon after which the train left. It contained a guard of thirty men of the 60th Rifles under Major Fraser, who himself travelled in Arabi's carriage, and ten Egyptian personal guards in the prisoners' carriages. All the exiles seemed extremely cheerful, and evidently happier than they have been during confinement. The escape from probable death and the petty tyrannies practised towards themselves and their families, to honourable seclusion under the British rule, renders their late more enviable than that of the less notable criminals relegated to the tender mercies of their compatriots. Tomorrow, weather permitting, the vessel starts.

The Bishop of St. Albans.—The Bishop of St. Albans recently underwent an operation on his eyes, which was successfully performed. He has now regained the complete use of his sight.

The LATE SALISBURY ELECTION.—A correspondent at Salisbury writes:—During the late election it was stated that efforts would be made to build a railway, so as to revive the drooping trade of the city, and now that the election is over, we have a little re-consideration on the ground that this promise was not likely to be fulfilled. Three gentlemen, however, it is stated, are prepared with £200 each towards the project; and Mr. T. Kennard, who was a prominent supporter of Mr. Kennard, had a letter in the local papers on Saturday offering to give the land for the

THE NEW PRIMATE.

The *Times*, discussing the acceptance by Dr. Benson of the Primacy, says it would not have been easy to find a better man for the existing state of things. Young as he is, he has spent half his years in founding and in nursing foundations till strong enough to be passed into other hands.—

We are told that a little cloud will follow Dr. Benson from the West on account of some hard words about the publications of the Liberal party. It is a matter of common sense, and certainly of convenience, that neither the Church of England nor the Liberalists should take much amiss the statements of the other side. It is quite impossible for outsiders and insiders to see with one another's eyes. The Church of England, considered as an establishment, and in regard to its distribution of offices and revenues, is a very peculiar institution, perhaps the most peculiar institution in the world affecting a national and religious character. What is more, it prides itself on its peculiarities, and regards them as essential—at least has hitherto. It has anomalies innumerable, and a wonderful jargon in the matter of vestments and formalities. It is most ingenious in explaining to its own satisfaction much that cannot but shock the unassisted and unaccustomed reason and conscience. But a peculiar person, priding himself on his exemption to common ideas, must expect not to be understood, and has no right to complain if others do not see him quite as he sees himself. If the Church of England chooses to be peculiar, it must do so, the inevitable consequence. It must be misunderstood and misrepresented. Outsiders, from mere lack of knowledge, and inability to enter into the system, will make wild guesses as to incomes and other matters, and will, of course, be ignorant of many particulars which nobody takes the trouble to acquaint them with. There is just the same amount of ignorance among Church people as to the doings and internal arrangements of the dissenting communities. Even our public schools cannot understand one another's actual position or phrasology, insomuch that if a man of one school talks about another, he is sure to stumble immediately into some bit of ignorance, very offensive or very amusing to the initiated. So it is better, in our humble opinion, to let talk pass, or to notice it very quietly, talk and no more. Possibly Dr. Benson will have to add to his silvery eloquence the gift of golden silence when no good is to be done by talk. His powers of action and of speaking have been abundantly tried and proved. But if he is to be Primate of all England in the sense desired by the Constitution—but the other day very clearly and tenderly explained by the late Primate—he will have to learn sometimes to express himself by silence rather than by words."

A WET CHRISTMAS.

According to the meteorologists, the 25th of December is on an average of years the coldest night of the year. Considering the many green Christmases we all recollect, it is a little hard to believe that this statement is correct. So far as recorded observations go, its accuracy is probably unimpeachable, and yet, like other averages, it may convey an untrue impression of facts:—

There have been Christmas nights whose cold was so abnormally intense as to affect the average for many years. Such a one was the Christmas of 1856 and elderly people still talk of the terrible 23rd which ushered in the long and severe winter of 1856-7. What is least as certain as the observation of temperature is the fact that Christmas Day, whether cold or warm, is much more often fine than wet. This is indeed, of course, the case. The proportion of wet to fine days being but 165 out of 365, it is true of the 23rd of December in a greater degree than of many other given dates. This again may be hard of credence to those who, having had outdoor schemes for spending yesterday frustrated, are inclined to exclaim that it always rains on Christmas Day. As a matter of fact, it rains but comparatively seldom on that day. Naturally enough, however, we take a good deal of notice of it when it does. A wet Christmas has its compensations, however. The difference that it makes to the poor, as compared with a long frost, is incalculable. This statistician published this morning show that there were in the London workhouses yesterday 2,271 more inmates than on Christmas Day, 1881, and this means that there is a vast deal more pinching and pinching among those who only just manage to keep a home of their own. It is a consideration, too, with which those who are disappointed of a day's skating on Boxing Day may console themselves, that even to those who have all the good things of life, cold weather is only a boon on the assumption of good health and comparative youth. A "cold spell" raises the mortality returns with unerring regularity. A wet, and, therefore, a mild Christmas, implies prolonged life to many, and freedom from suffering to very many more.—*Globe*.

BANK HOLIDAY.

Tuesday's weather presented an unpleasant contrast to that of the three previous Bank holidays of the year—Easter Monday, Whit Monday, and the first Monday in August. There was little to choose between the heavy, foggy weather of Christmas Day, and the overcast, damp, and depressing atmosphere of Tuesday, when the holiday-folk were treated to an occasional visitation of Scotch mist; but, taken altogether, the balance of discomfort could well be claimed by Monday. A leaden-hued sky, that made the atmosphere overhangingly dark, sickly mists of overhanging clouds from the west, streets and suburban roads well coated with London mud, intermittent falls of drizzling rain, and the universal closure of shops which added to the general dulness, formed the conditions under which the working classes of the metropolis sought, in the open air, the relaxation which Boxing Day is supposed to afford them. In spite of these unfavourable circumstances, however, many thousands of people streamed through the streets, and the usual sights of the metropolis had a fair show of visitors.

The Royal Courts of Justice were thrown open without restriction to the general public between the hours of ten and three p.m., and upwards of 10,000 people passed through them within that period. It says much for the appreciation of the public of this noble building that the greatest quietude and good conduct marked, without exception, the whole of its visitors. Not a single complaint or word of remonstrance was needed, and the entire absence of police speaks well for the plan which is to be adopted here of dispensing with the services of that useful body of men, and depending solely on the staff of officers attached to the building.

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NOTICE.

A Four-page Supplement is published with this day's number of the MESSENGER, and will be delivered gratis with each copy of the paper. It contains our American news and an interesting variety of literary extracts.

Great Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 27—28, 1882.

THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

After wearing the appearance of an amateur and rather dissipated Sunday for about half a week, London has begun to look like itself. The citizens reappear, are more damp than usual, and once more find that, owing to the noisy pavements, they are like the poet and his friend, and "cannot hear each other speak." But, though the outward semblance of business has returned; though letters arrive occasionally at their destinations in due time; though provisions may be purchased; though the holidays are nominally over, their spirit lives on in a subdued way. It would be an error to imagine that, because Bank Holiday and Christmas Day are things of the past, all labourers have returned to their labour. Anxious authors, whose books have just missed being ready before Christmas, will probably find that these contributions to culture will be delayed beyond hope. The reason is said by some to be that the humble but indispensable servants of knowledge and of song are still pursuing a career of public festivity, or culling the blossom of domestic enjoyments. Printers, "boarders," or they who "board" books, stitchers, and other toilers, do not universally see the need of printing, boarding, and stitching, between Christmas Day and the New Year. These are no man's days, a waste debatable bit of time, *hors'œuvre*, scraps of leisure, in which many perceive no reason for working. It is not a good time to order new boots or fresh raincoat; better it were to secure what is necessary for this perishable body some fortnight before Christmas. What kind of holiday people are taking who are not in the country or at Brighton, or the Riviera, or in Paris, it is not very easy to be certain. Judging from the statistics of the Police Courts, it does not appear that the unoccupied public find occupation in gin, as Leech's boy did in figs. There are plenty of places of amusement open, though these, in this depressing, warm, wet weather, are chiefly entertaining at night. We doubt whether the protracted holiday is spent by very many toilers either in the British Museum or in the National Gallery, or among the knickknacks bequeathed to the nation by Mr. Jones. Probably idleness is itself a sufficient holiday for people who work very hard. A maid-servant on getting a holiday passed it in bed with a novel, and this showed good sense, originality, and a true conception of the uses of leisure. Mr. Thomas Gray, the elegant poet, would have passed his holiday in much the same manner, only his novel would have been by the younger Crèveillon, and calculated, as the American said, "to lower the moral tone some." Dr. Johnson is said to have remarked that he seldom, if ever, had got as much wall-fruit as he would have liked. The holidays of children run on avowedly and unblushingly to Twelfth Night, and schoolboys (and happier schoolmasters) get five weeks' holiday at Christmas. The schoolmaster has his own theory of holidays. He is usually an accomplished skater, and if the weather be frosty he cuts figures on the ice sedulously for eight hours a day. Or he "runs over"—for the modern schoolmaster is always abroad when he gets the chance—he runs over to Holland, or the south of Spain, or he goes to his favourite mountain haunts, and gets up information on the sanitary condition of Davos, or, if there be heavy snows, he climbs some Welsh or Scotch height, and has as many chances of breaking his neck as he enjoys on the Matterhorn in summer. The modern schoolmaster is a tremendous fellow for taking exercise, and if he had "some arrears of flogging to be done," like Mr. Squires, his strokes would be formidable after his winter holidays. But boys are not much flogged in modern England. The only thing that embitters a boy's holiday, the very trifling *amarri aiquid*, is the holiday task. But we have never met nor heard, nor read of (except in "Vice Versa," and then it was the schoolmaster's son) a boy who did not get up his holiday task in the train on the way back to school. This shameful negligence of youth has hitherto been overlooked or neglected by writers of tracts. But can any topic for such authors be more inspiring than the idea of a boy who thus puts off his holiday task, and who, as he studies it in the train, is interfered with by a railway accident? Of course his recovery will be a slow one, and his first request in convalescence will be for his geography or arithmetic book. If these remarks induce even one boy to learn his holiday task during the holidays, we have not written in vain. Previously, however, the efforts of the most conscientious sisters have proved of but little avail. As to parents, their time is quite fully occupied in the holidays. Nor is it every parent who feels secure in asking questions about the holiday task. The new primers are unlike the old grammars, and we have an impression that several quite new cases and moods and tenses have lately been invented by head-masters. A father does not like to meddle with these matters, which, as the old Scotch dame said about the *dativus ethicus*, "have come in since his time." The holidays of children nowadays are a round of mundane gaieties at which mature revellers shudder. Children are eternally "going out." Thackeray in vain argued against these precocious dissipations. Apparently mothers like it. Children's parties perhaps break them in for the duties of the chaperon, or there may be a depraved pleasure in seeing little girls first, as Thackeray says some old fellows take an abominable delight in making boys drunk. Or, on a more charitable theory, it may be that the prettiness of a child's party, with all the little boys looking neat for once, and all the little girls tossing about their pretty loose golden locks, is the cause of children's parties. Or they may be mere exercises for dances in which girls not yet "out" and matrons not absolutely withdrawn from festivity may enjoy themselves. If reasons are abundant, children's parties are more so. There is a per-

fect forest of Christmas trees, as brilliant as those woods laden with precious stones which Aladdin found in the wizard's cavern. There are afternoon parties, and later entertainments, and the more depressing delights of magic lanterns and charades, and plays written, managed, and acted by boys and girls. These are always pretty shows, for children are natural actors, and have none of the self-consciousness of the amateur. So the fun goes on till Twelfth Night or later, varied with an occasional pantomime—till Black Monday comes, and Dr. Grimston returns with his young friends to the birchen shades of Rodwell Regis. Meanwhile, politicians in England, and even, let us hope, murderers in Ireland, take a holiday.—*Daily News*.

THE DISTRESS IN IRELAND.

It is too early yet to be sure that the difficulties of distress and famine in Ireland will not form new subjects of embarrassment as the winter deepens. The distress against outdoor relief is already denounced with characteristic heat as "the crowning infamy of the present Administration." Yet when we are told that in one union in the west of Ireland the guardians have been so free with relief to their friends that the rates are actually 18s. 10d. in the pound, one can understand that there is a formidable objection to out relief in Ireland which does not exist in Great Britain. It is possible, that, in spite of this, Mr. Parnell said, "the Local Government Board may see reason to change their mind." Mr. Forster agreed in his Glasgow speech that "a great deal might be done by a good system of public works in Ireland; by money spent in making railways, better harbours, improving fisheries, and in other directions." Dr. Lyons, the member for the City of Dublin, insists on works connected with planting and the re-afforestation of Ireland. He suggests that the expenditure of a million of money would suffice to employ and support at least one hundred thousand labourers and would carry half a million of the population profitably to the country over the pressing period at hand. That schemes of this kind will command a hearing in case the distress should become severe is tolerably certain, and a very disagreeable prospect it is. As for emigration, that may be an ultimate channel of relief; but it cannot be immediate, it will need minute and prolonged care, and what is most important of all, it cannot be final. Anything like the wholesale deportation of the old days, or on the scale that seems to be in Lord Derby's mind, is out of the question. One objection to such dreams which ought to be more present to politicians than it is in the view that may be taken of a wholesale immigration of a poverty-stricken and broken population by the Governments of the countries to whom we propose to transfer the weight of our Irish burden. There was an article in the *Age* the other day, the well-known Melbourne newspaper, expressing the view of Victoria on Irish emigration:—"We are to get either the cripples who cannot support themselves or the dangerous men whom England hopes to bribe away from their homes. We have a right to protest against this. Give Ireland self-government for a generation, let her people become as peaceful and law-abiding as they are industrious, and we shall welcome them to our shores. But we do not want to take the bad bargains of the mother country off her hands." This is the kind of protest that we might expect to hear from even a more important country than Victoria if emigration were attempted suddenly and rapidly on any scale that would be large enough to effect a sensible decrease in the population of Ireland. And the protest would be perfectly just.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

THE EGYPTIAN REBELS.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphed on Wednesday night:—

Yesterday evening there appeared in the Arabic official organ five decrees pronouncing sentences on the remainder of the political prisoners—in all eighty-four persons. The heaviest penalty—twenty years banishment to Massowah—is inflicted upon Ali Rouhy and Moussa-el-Akad; and the lightest—twelve months police surveillance—on Mohammed Sadr, a native lawyer. No regular system appears to have been observed in dealing out the punishments, but probably the Egyptian Government had special reasons for the astonishing disparity in the sentences upon men accused of the same crime. Four of the five decrees mention that the punishment is for implication in the crime of rebellion. The fifth simply pronounces the sentence. The two richest prisoners are placed under surveillance for various terms, and are ordered to deposit heavy money guarantees, from £5,000 downwards. In the cases of six of them the failure to produce the money is to entail their separation from the lands of their banishment at Cosseir, instead of in their own villages. Abdul Ghaffar is sentenced to five years' exile from Egypt. He had elected to follow Arab to Ceylon, but at the last moment was forced to stay, as the Government, on the ground not having confiscated his property, refused to allow him any pension or his passage. It is to be hoped that, this question being disposed of, the Ministers of Justice and the Interior will now turn their attention to the provincial administration.

The reports to the Egyptian Government of the Prison Inspectors mention that substantial evidence has been collected, except in the case of Zagazig, where the Mudir gave no facilities. One Inspector being unfortunate enough to be among the number of those engaged formally in the lawsuit of Ferid Pacha, preferred not to press his questions for fear of being accused of personal spite. Although several of the inhabitants of Zagazig offer each a thousand pounds to any one who will compass the dismissal of the Governor, neither his own misdeeds nor the efforts of his victims give promise of his removal. Arabi and his companions left Suez at half-past two to-day.

NEW ZEALAND RABBITS.—So great is the destruction caused to crops by the enormous multiplication of rabbits in New Zealand, that the Government of India has, according to the *Calcutta Englishman*, been asked by the New Zealand Government to send out for acclimatisation a number of mongooses, which animals are well known to be effectual destroyers of rabbits. Whether the mongooses may not in their turn prove undesirable visitors does not appear to have been considered. The mongooses meanwhile are being collected from various parts of Bengal, and carefully kept in the Zoological Gardens at Calcutta. There are a hundred species of rabbits have been gathered together, they are to be despatched to their new home. Whether the experiment will succeed is looked upon as doubtful, the progressive powers of the rabbit having hitherto proved sufficient to withstand all attempts to thin the numbers of this creature which in an evil hour was imported from Europe into the colony.

PARIS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1882.

Branch Office: LONDON, 168, STRAND; NICE, 15, QUAI MASSENA.

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THE STATE OF IRELAND.

At the Dublin Police-court on Wednesday, the summons against Mr. O'Brien, of *United Ireland*, for publishing a false and defamatory libel headed "Accusing Spirits," came on for hearing. Mr. O'Brien, who was accompanied by Mr. Healy, M.P., and Mr. Sexton, M.P., applied for an adjournment to enable him to employ a solicitor. Mr. Murphy, Q.C., on the part of the Crown, consenting, the case was adjourned until Monday next, Mr. O'Brien stating it would occupy a long time. It was Mr. O'Brien's intention to justify every statement in the article. He will be defended by Mr. A. M. Sullivan.

In this week's *United Ireland* there is an article on the prosecution, welcoming the opportunity which Dublin Castle proposes to offer "lest once for all the false stories and hoaxes which have been called to jury in Great-street Court-house, and proceeding thus." To what tribunal are we cited? Is it to be the Green-street police court over again? Are the jurors to be the same men whose bringing together and empanelling, not whose verdicts, have been here impugned? For no one ever alleged that the jurors who sent Hayes, and Walsh and Myles Joyce to the gallows did not give a conscientious finding according to their oaths. We do not believe that twelve men could be picked out in Ireland at the present time who would knowingly and wilfully send innocent men to their doom. What we did charge, and do charge, is that where a certain limited class of men alone is selected, belonging to a particular religion, to the almost entire exclusion of jurors professing the religion of their country, the people of Ireland, such as is not a trial by "peers," but by a jury, that when the convicted man, a Catholic, having received the sacraments of their Church, protest their innocence at the last instant on the scaffold, after all hope has passed, there is amongst the so-called reasonable grounds for doubting whether they deserved their fate."

An old man, named Lenham, was attacked on Tuesday night near Limerick, by three men, and so severely beaten, that his dying deposition was taken at Barrington's Hospital by the resident Magistrate. Two of his alleged assailants have been arrested by the Constabulary.

On Tuesday night, as John Ryan, a farmer, was returning from Doon to his residence at Gurtavall, he was waylaid and severely assaulted, having been stabbed with a knife in different parts of the body. One of his alleged assailants, a man named Jeremiah Whelan, was arrested later on, and lodged in gaol. The men are said to be members of rival factions.

A Court was held in Limerick on Wednesday for the purpose of hearing applications under the Crown Act from persons whose relatives have been murdered or sustained mortal injuries during the late Land League agitation. Mr. Constantine Molloy presided, and the first claim heard was that of Mr. Robert Wheeler, a farmer and land agent, whose son, Mr. Henry Wheeler, was murdered at midday, near Oola, in this county, on Nov. 12, 1880. Mr. Wheeler claims £5,000 compensation.

—Council for the Applicant, Mr. Packenham Law, Q.C., in opening the case, said the murder was directly attributable to the baneful influence of the Land League teachings. A land meeting was held at Tipperary a short time before the murder, and at this Michael Moore, one of three brothers who were in possession of some lands for which Mr. Wheeler was agent, attended. The Moores had some dispute with their landlord, and on the day of the murder young Wheeler was on the lands with the view of effecting an arrangement. The landlord, Mr. Boyd, was with him but left, and a small party of men, young Wheeler was found dead on a field close by the lands. His body was riddled with a large stone, and his head crushed in with a large stone, weighing some ten pounds. There was no sympathy shown with old Wheeler by his grief. Nay, more, he was "boycotted," and outrages began in the district which, hitherto, had been a comparatively peaceful one. Land League meetings were held in the district, and crime increased so fearfully that where young Wheeler was murdered fifty agrarian outrages were committed during a period of eighteen months. —Mr. Robert Wheeler, examined, stated that up to the time the Land League was established he lived on friendly terms with the people, but when the agitation went on nobody would salute him, and the whole country was in a blaze. Witness was Boycotted after the occurrence, with blood on Michael Moore's shirt, and other strong circumstantial matters pointing to them as the murderers, the men were not put on trial. Michael Moore was in custody for some time until he was discharged, and forty pounds given him to leave the country.—In reply to Mr. Blackhall, solicitor, Mr. Molloy said there was no power under the Act to exempt any persons resident in the district which would be affected by the tax to meet the amount which the Lord-Lieutenant might award to Mr. Wheeler as compensation on the report from the Court.

There are two other cases for hearing, one from Mary Rose, a ladies' auxiliary for compensation for the murder of her husband, Robert Rose, who was employed as an emergency relief at Drankeen, and another from James McKenna, for personal injuries inflicted on him.

An inquiry was held by Mr. Teeling at Mullingar on Wednesday, upon an application by Mr. Henry Smythe for £10,000 compensation for the loss of his wife, Maria Smythe, who was shot dead when he was on a visit to her.

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years' experience in Westmeath. It had not officially come to his knowledge that there was a branch of the Ribbon Society in Collinstown, but he had formed a strong opinion. His experience of the Ribbon Society was not that it was confined to labourers; but that it extended to the agricultural classes generally, including the farmers. John Talbot, rate collector, stated that two-thirds of the rate-payers of the Board of Forestry, which it was proposed to levy part of the compensation, were almost bankrupt owing to bad seasons. He was able, however, to collect nearly all the rates. The tenants had gone in under the Arrears Act, and they had been able to pay the year's rent. Sub-Inspector Waters gave a list of the outrages that had occurred in the district for eighteen months before the murder. They had since almost entirely stopped. Riggis was at present living in a hut about two miles from his old farm. The man who put up the hut told Witness that the hut was erected at the cost of the Ladies' Land League. Mr. Teeling will make his report to the Lord Lieutenant.

A Nationalistic organ in Belfast publishes a paragraph, stating that it has been authorised to say that Mr. Jos. G. Biggar, M.P., has recently left the country, and, as far as he has received, has just received a summons to appear on that day week, and cause who should he not be returned for trial to the Assizes. It is added that Mr. Biggar looks upon the latest move of the Government as a joke, and that he ran away he would be "losing all the fun of the fair."

LONDON GOSSIP.

(FROM THE "WORLD".)

The "north country," in spite of the heavy snows, seems to have a frosty winter. All the great Yorkshire and Durham houses are filled and afire. Twelfth-day there is a procession of bakers. Ripeon leads the way on the 8th, and promises to be a brilliant gathering under the joint patronage of county and close. The Durham county hall on the 9th, and Mrs. Pemberton's on the following day, the York ball on the 11th, and half a dozen others, are among the fixtures of the northern carnival season, if a second snowfall does not enforce a curfew clause and reduce local transit to sleighing convenience.

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NICE 1—15, QUAI MASSÉNA.

Great-Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 28—29, 1882.

M. GAMBETTA.

The air of mystery which has for several weeks been observed respecting the indisposition of M. Gambetta has at length had to yield to the pressure of anxieties it is no longer possible to dissemble. The most prominent public man in France is suffering from a malady not only irksome, but serious; and the English public will share with the countrymen of the distinguished patient a keen desire to learn that his medical advisers entertain a reasonable confidence in their capacity to rescue him from the danger by which he is at this moment unquestionably beset. It is to be regretted that the public were not informed at an earlier period, and with more frankness, of the real condition of M. Gambetta, even though premature alarms might have induced the more unscrupulous of his opponents to allege that the Chief of the Republican Party, in having bulletins issued respecting his health, was springing the ways and traditions of royalty. Now, however, these party sallers would be wholly out of place. No one can doubt the gravity of the illness from which M. Gambetta is suffering, and for the moment attention is concentrated not upon the past of the sufferer, but upon the gap that would be left in French politics if it should turn out that he had no future. In ordinary times, and when a man is in robust health, he has to run the gauntlet of as much rude criticism as it may suit the temperament or the tastes of his critics to apply to him. But, before a sick bed even political rancour is silenced, or speaks in whispers; while more indulgent and equitable adversaries are softened into sympathy. There is nothing better calculated to rehabilitate in public estimation a political character suffering from a temporary reverse than an opportune illness. M. Gambetta could with difficulty have made any speech or performed any act that would have rendered him half the service he has reaped from a forced confinement to his house; and now that the fears of his friends are thoroughly aroused, it is impossible that both his admirers and his antagonists should not speculate upon what would be the consequence to France if he were suddenly removed from the arena where he has played so prominent a part, and where no one can suppose that, if he lives, he is an exhausted and obsolete figure. Certainly, the Republic so far has not justified the pretence that it affords a better opening for talent than Constitutional Monarchy, or even than a personal Empire. At any rate, were the pretence well founded, there must be a shocking dearth of political ability among our neighbours. The Republic has now been established for more than ten years, and it has not yet produced one striking character. M. Gambetta is not its child, but rather its father, and was born amid the difficult circumstances of the Empire. He sprang into notoriety at a bound; and he has not greatly added to his reputation since the day when he left Paris in a balloon, and compelled his countrymen to fight for honour when, practically, there was nothing else to fight for. The reflection that France is not engendering public characters worthy of its great reputation in the past in one way pondering over. After the First Empire fell, there was an immediate bubbling up of long-suppressed ability; and even under the by no means free régime of Louis XVIII. and Charles X. men came to the front, and maintained themselves there, who would have made their mark under any conditions and in any age. Between 1830 and 1848, it is no exaggeration to say that men of political capacity swarmed in France. The coup d'état of 1851 exiled some, and silenced more; but even under the reign of Napoleon III. genius made itself heard and appreciated; and it was during that singular period that M. Gambetta burst above the horizon. No such star has dawned, suddenly or slowly, since; and the consequence is that all eyes are still turned to M. Gambetta in hours of crisis, or when, as is now the case, attention is called to him by some personal cause. He has had his extravagant admirers. He has been pursued by mereless detractors. But he has still to satisfy those impartial critics who recognise his oratorical force, and gladly acknowledge his patriotism, that he has in him the stuff of a constructive Statesman. —Standard.

THE OUTLOOK FOR AUSTRIA.

Allowing the highest possible value to the advantage gained by Austria in being rid of her Italian possessions, it is impossible to regard her enforced surrender by them all clear gain to the State, which still holds so many alien subjects under her rule. Their comparative contentment with their present allegiance is of course a considerable temporary advantage, as enabling their ruler to govern them with a much lighter hand than she laid upon subjugated Italy; but, on the other hand, it has to be remembered that if the practical incentives to discontent are slighter for the Slav than they were for the Italian, the sentimental stimulus has greatly gained in strength. Too much may have been made of the nationality idea, both by the professors who encourage it and, in another sense, by the politicians who dread it; but its existence and growth are unquestionable, and no less certain is the fact that it does not seem to require the support of any substantial grievance in the way of bad government, or to yield to any conciliations in these. —Pall Mall Gazette.

PARIS, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1882.

THE DISASTROUS ACCIDENT AT BRADFORD.

We have briefly stated by telegram a frightful accident occurred at Bradford on Thursday morning by the fall of a mill chimney, where nearly 30 workpeople were killed and about 40 injured. The mill is called Newland Mill, and is situated in Upper Castle-street, Bowing Old-lane, a suburb of Bradford. About five minutes past 8 a large mill chimney, 75 yards in height, standing in the mill-yard, fell upon the spinning and drawing sheds, and demolished a vast portion of the premises. Fortunately the accident occurred at the time of breakfast, when only a small number of the workpeople, who had brought their breakfasts, were on the premises. The scene was an appalling one. A great portion of the premises were carried down to the ground and reduced to an immense heap of ruins. Broken masonry, twisted woodwork, and shattered machinery were crushed together in a mass, in which they were hardly distinguishable. It was immediately evident that a number of workpeople, who had been seen shortly before in some parts of the premises, were missing. Efforts were at once made to rescue such as were buried in the ruins. Large gangs of workmen and policemen were set to work to find any who might be buried. The apprehensions were soon realized in that nine or ten bodies were recovered, and many wounded persons. The search was prosecuted with vigour during the rest of the day, and up to 6 o'clock on Friday morning no fewer than 24 dead bodies had been recovered, while not fewer than 40 persons were found to be more or less injured. The rooms which adjoin the chimney were spinning rooms, and at the time the chimney fell the spinners, to the number of about 50, would be getting their breakfast. There were four spinning floors, the top and bottom ones tenanted by Messrs. Haley and Co., and the two middle ones by Mr. J. Horsfall and Messrs. Greenwood respectively. The chimney in its descent completely crushed three quarters of this block, and with it a wool-sorting portion which stood further away. The chimney was erected 20 years ago, and was being repaired on the outside, though the men were not at work yesterday morning. It was what is known as a joint-chimney, serving engines supplying power at high to Messrs. Mitchell and Shellard, Messrs. A. Haley and Co., Messrs. Dawson and Sons, and Newland Mills. The chimney was apparently a stout and substantial structure, and the only one that can be assigned for its falling is the high wind which blew on Wednesday night. Sir Edward Ripley's men were repairing the chimney, the mills not belonging to him though rented by Messrs. A. Haley and Co., and the two other firms. The chimney fell diagonally towards Upper Castle-street across a four-storyed building, which was used for spinning and wool-sorting, and besides utterly destroying one end of this building, it damaged the engine-house and some buildings on the other side of the street. At present it is impossible to estimate the damage; no doubt it is very serious. The recovery of the dead bodies was rapidly proceeded with, while the injured were removed to the Board Infirmary. So badly were the features of the dead distorted or, in many cases, actually crushed, that the identification of the unfortunate victims was a slow and painful process. As a rule those in the upper floors principally suffered, and most of the fatal injuries were found to have been sustained on the head. The workpeople who were in the basement appeared to have escaped most lightly, but, in many instances, one has been taken and another left. In some cases, the workmen, and together at breakfast, some were killed and some were seriously injured while one was so slightly hurt that she was able to walk home. In the top story, just at the point where the chimney, in its fall, cut off one end of the mill with the precision of a knife, two Irish women, Lizzie Walsh, of Caldonia-street, and Mrs. Whelan, of Duncan-street, were together. Mrs. Whelan, struck with a falling beam, must have been killed instantaneously. The beam could not be removed and the body was long visible on the topmost edge of the ruins. The girl Walsh was not killed at once, but remained moaning and crying as efforts were made to release her. She was imprisoned about three hours, during which the Rev. Canon Motter and the Rev. Father Mulcahy administered to her the last rites of the Roman Catholic Church. A still more painful case was that of a girl one of whose legs it was necessary to cut off for the purpose of getting her out of the ruins. Emily Mitchell, the dead, had the top of her skull cut quite away. William Shackleton, another, was so dead, so that his face had lost all human appearance, and he could be recognized only by his clothing. Some others, with blackened faces, had been suffocated. All bore evidences of the terrible nature of their last moments. The recovery of the living and dead was watched with breathless interest. At times silence was total, and at once operations were suspended while the workers listened for some sound to indicate life in the ruins, and recover heavy damages. It is not a mere theoretical right. It was on a very memorable occasion put into practice. A young marine was tried by court-martial, sentenced to imprisonment, and imprisoned. He had gone through a year of his sentence when its legality was questioned by some prominent friends. The young lieutenants were released, and once more appeared in court of justice, this time, however, as plaintiff, with the president who had sentenced him as defendant in the case. The old verdict went for the young officer and compensation for a year's imprisonment was fixed at £1,000. The judgment of the common law over martial law was on this occasion rather unnecessarily emphasized by the presiding judge, who explained to the plaintiff that the verdict recorded against one officer did not stop him from going against all the others who had contributed to his imprisonment. The plaintiff, however, with judicious moderation took his £1,000 and proceeded no further in the business. The possible conflict between the law of the land and the law of the services was illustrated on another occasion. It was a question whether, if the military were called out, and the officer in command gave the order to fire, the soldier who obeyed his superior's orders would be exempt from the consequences. This difficult legal problem was actually put by one of the grand jury to a judge who was charged with it. The judge was Chief Justice Bushe, and his answer was that no subject of the King was obliged to obey an illegal order. *In generalibus latet dolus.* The soldier desired more explicit information, "Is the soldier then himself to be the judge of the matter?" And the Chief Justice said he was. This would be strange news for many soldiers, and silenced more; but even under the reign of Napoleon III. genius made itself heard and appreciated; and it was during that singular period that M. Gambetta burst above the horizon. No such star has dawned, suddenly or slowly, since; and the consequence is that all eyes are still turned to M. Gambetta in hours of crisis, or when, as is now the case, attention is called to him by some personal cause. He has had his extravagant admirers. He has been pursued by mereless detractors. But he has still to satisfy those impartial critics who recognise his oratorical force, and gladly acknowledge his patriotism, that he has in him the stuff of a constructive Statesman. —Standard.

A correspondent sends some additional particulars about this lamentable accident. He states that Mill-street is almost in the very heart of the town, and in all directions towers chimney connected with numerous mills. The chimney that has fallen was the second in size and importance of the whole number, and was about 80 yards high. It has been regarded for some considerable time past with feelings of anxiety, because portions of it have fallen at different periods. So late as a fortnight ago portions fell, and when the same thing happened on Wednesday some of the workpeople became so anxious about its safety that they refused to go on with their work unless something were done to make the chimney safe. In consequence a number of men were employed on Thursday in repairing the chimney, and only discontinued their work to go to breakfast, which meal lasts from 8 to 8 30. Great and shocking as the loss of life, it would have been very much greater if the accident had occurred a few minutes earlier or a few minutes later. Many wonderful escapes might be recorded, as well as many deaths of the most pathetic nature. A little child was taking her father's bread basket at the mill, and was struck down and killed. The young man Wright, who was rescued alive, was sitting at breakfast near a girl at the time of the accident in an upper story of the mill. They were both carried in the fall to the basement, and after Wright's rescue, the poor girl's shrieks attracted the workmen, who proceeded to dig for her. At length, however, her cries were heard no more, and when she was reached she was dead. The scenes that took place immediately after the accident were most touching. Women and children were rushing hither and thither, and striving to recognise the dead, who were in many cases beyond all recognition. At the

time the chimney fell, a train from Bradford to Halifax was standing in St. Dunstan's Station, and the first intimation that something was about to occur was a frightful whizzing sound, this being followed by a deep murmuring noise of explosion to all who live in districts where colliery explosions are of frequent occurrence. The passengers rushed to the carriage windows just in time to see the vast chimney appear to subside, and then the massive stone which divided the structure about half-way up split in several parts, and the whole of the upper part of the chimney fell with such violence that hardly two bricks were left together.

At midnight there were a large number of people at the scene of the disaster. The operations were carried on by the aid of large bonfires, torches, and the electric light. Since 10 o'clock three more bodies have been dug out—those of a man named Wilson, a girl of about 14 years old, and a young man, neither of whom have yet been identified. The exact number of killed cannot be known for two or three days, as it will take that time to remove the debris.

The Standard says:—For a parallel to the calamity at Bradford on Thursday one must go back nearly twenty years, when a factory chimney in Saddleworth fell at night upon the roofs of three or four cottages, crushing the inhabitants in their sleep. Very few people realize the amount of material that goes to make a chimney between two or three hundred feet in height. Despite its prosaic and even unsavoury functions, the structure is generally planned with some regard to elegance of form, and just proportions always the diminish the idea of mass. As with a tall tree, it is not till one actually sees it fall, or fallen, that one has full conception of its desolating power. First, the great shaft begins to move slowly and all in one piece. Then, as it gathers speed, the massive parts bulge forward, the seams of mortar open, the whole fabric breaks up, and is discharged like a bursting shell of a thousand tons upon the roofs and roads beneath. To dig out such a mass, even men and materials ready on the spot, would be a labour of many hours, especially as a deal of the work has to be done delicately. Meanwhile, the story of the accident suggests one very obvious reflection. Chimneys are, as a rule, carefully built, and if carefully watched will be found to give warning before they fall. This was the case at Bradford on Thursday, where, almost at the moment that it fell, the shaft was actually used for survey for defects discovered at its base. So far as can be ascertained at present, the catastrophe was caused by some giving way of the earth upon which the foundations were built. This was over a mine which had been dug out and filled up, and is now becoming a common experience that buildings over old mines are liable to collapse at almost any moment. It is, of course, proverbially easier to witness the event than before it, but the circumstances as reported seem to show that Newland Mill chimney was seen to be unsafe on Wednesday, and surely while its stability was a matter of something more than grave suspicion, it would have been but a reasonable precaution to close the works until the doubt could be set at rest, the mischief repaired, or the chimney demolished. When warning is fairly given and we take no notice of it, we have only ourselves to blame for subsequent disaster.

THE BELT LIBEL CASE.

THE VERDICT.

The interest taken by the public in this trial, which has now extended over forty-three days, was more than ever manifested on Thursday, Baron Huddleston having intimated on Wednesday that he would probably conclude his summing-up to the jury about midday. Long before the usual hour of the court's sitting the outer door was besieged by a crowd in the vain hope of obtaining admission, and there they lingered in large numbers throughout the day. Long, too, before his lordship took his seat on the bench the court itself was well filled, the audience including the witnesses called for the plaintiff and the defendant. Mr. Belt, on entering the court, was greeted with applause by his friends and partisans. Then came the jury, who well deserve the compliment paid to them by Baron Huddleston for their attention to this protracted case; and here the usher's cry of "Silence." Baron Huddleston took his seat on the bench. Baron Huddleston analysed on Thursday the evidence adduced by the plaintiff, and the busts claimed by Mr. Belt in his, and which, according to the libel had been "executed, finished, and invested with artistic merit" by Mr. Brock and Mr. Ver Heydon, beginning with the bust of Mrs. Tregos and passing on to that of the Honourable Robert Liddell, Sir Smith Child (respecting which the learned judge said no one denied that Mr. Belt had done it), Mrs. Bischofheim, and Mr. Webb, of Newstead Abbey, with respect to which latter one of the jury had put a most appropriate question to the accomplished President of the Royal Academy (Sir Frederick Leighton)—namely, whether he was on the Committee of Selection when Mr. Belt's busts were admitted for exhibition at the Royal Academy. And in answer to him (Baron Huddleston) as to whether the bust of Mr. Webb had been among those admitted for exhibition, Sir Frederick Leighton said it had, but he added "it was a very poor bust," and Mr. Calder Marshall despatched it in pretty much the same terms so that those distinguished artists had both dismissed any pretension to merit in it which the distinguished Committee of Selection of the Royal Academy had thought worthy of exhibition on its model. Mr. Webb had been among those admitted for exhibition, Sir Frederick Leighton said it had, but he added "it was a very poor bust," and Mr. Calder Marshall despatched it in pretty much the same terms so that those distinguished artists had both dismissed any pretension to merit in it which the distinguished Committee of Selection of the Royal Academy had thought worthy of exhibition on its model. 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